

Media Contact:

Brooke Ericson, (202) 418-2300

Brooke.Ericson@fcc.gov

For Immediate Release

**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MICHAEL O’RIELLY
ON THE SMARTER ACT OF 2018**

WASHINGTON, May 15, 2018. — “I commend Senators Lee, Hatch, Tillis, and Grassley on the introduction of The SMARTER Act of 2018. Among other improvements, the bill includes two key reforms to the FCC’s merger review process that I have longed championed: setting a non-aspirational, 180-day shot clock for agency review of license transfers and addressing the abusive practice of designating an application for hearing to the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), which effectively serves to kill a transaction. Applicants deserve a timely, complete, fact-based, and straightforward answer from the Commission – not one built on interminable delays or shady denials.”

###

Office of Commissioner Mike O’Rielly: (202) 418-2300

Twitter: @mikeofcc

www.fcc.gov/leadership/michael-orielly

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).