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For Immediate Release

**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MICHAEL O’RIELLY
ON CIRCULATION OF C-BAND ORDER**

WASHINGTON, February 6, 2020. “After years of leading the charge to open up the C-band, I am incredibly excited an order has been circulated, thanks to the leadership of Chairman Pai, that will make a portion of this valuable spectrum available for next-generation wireless networks. This key band is by far the most ideal mid-band spectrum in the U.S. for new advanced services, especially 5G.

Although I still need to review the particulars, it appears to be consistent with the principles that I set forth a while ago and worked hard with appropriate parties to secure, and I intend to support it. Freeing the 280 MHz of spectrum, while protecting existing systems and remaining users, was my highest priority and where I successfully focused most of my effort. Much time and attention has been spent on the appropriate incentive payment for the satellite providers, and I am pleased that an agreement was reached that should allow them to fully and voluntarily participate in this transition. As I have always said, the satellite providers’ cooperation will be absolutely necessary for a speedy and successful reallocation, and I thank the Chairman for making this possible and for considering this item at the February meeting. Sticking to the announced auction date this December and conducting it on time will be paramount.”

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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).

