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For Immediate Release

CHAIRMAN PAI ANNOUNCES INDUSTRY PROGRESS IN ADDRESSING DIAMETER NETWORK SECURITY ISSUE

WASHINGTON, July 27, 2020—Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai today announced that the wireless communications industry has made significant progress in addressing security risks associated with the Diameter protocol, a critical component of telecommunications infrastructure, and praised the FCC’s Communications Security, Reliability, and Interoperability Council (CSRIC) for its ongoing efforts to promote network reliability and security in the United States.

“Americans need and deserve secure and reliable communications networks,” said Chairman Pai. “Industry adoption of CSRIC network security best practices advances that goal. I commend the providers that have already implemented these measures and urge those with work underway to complete this important effort. I also thank the CSRIC members who provide their expertise in addressing complex network security issues, including members of the current CSRIC VII who remain hard at work through the pandemic on efforts to promote network security during the transition to 5G networks and Next Generation 911.”

Chairman Pai previously charged CSRIC VI with examining and developing recommendations to mitigate network reliability and security risks related to the Diameter protocol, which is used to exchange authentication, authorization, and accounting information in communications networks. CSRIC VI recommended that wireless service providers implement specific [security measures](#). The FCC’s Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau recently concluded an assessment of industry adoption of those measures.

“The Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau has been reaching out to wireless providers to determine how they have responded to CSRIC’s recommendations for reducing Diameter-related security risks,” said Bureau Chief Lisa M. Fowlkes. “We found widespread adoption across the industry, with implementation of these measures either completed or underway by most providers.”

Chairman Pai has also charged [CSRIC VII](#) with developing recommendations to help manage security risks during the transition to 5G networks and as 911 services transition from legacy to IP-based networks, among other issues. Those efforts are currently underway.

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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).