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For Immediate Release

FCC ANNOUNCES NEW OUTREACH FOR CONSUMER STORIES ABOUT BROADBAND ACCESS

Seeks Input from Consumers About Experiences in Obtaining Broadband Access to Inform the Commission's Combatting Digital Discrimination Initiative

WASHINGTON, January 25, 2023—The FCC's Task Force to Prevent Digital Discrimination today announced it is offering consumers an opportunity to share their stories and experiences in obtaining broadband internet access. Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel established the Task Force to serve as a cross-agency effort focused on creating rules and policies to combat digital discrimination and to promote equal access to broadband access across the country, regardless of zip code, income level, ethnicity, race, religion, or national origin.

Last month, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking looking to implement provisions of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Act pertaining to the prevention and elimination of digital discrimination. The Act establishes various requirements for the prevention and elimination of digital discrimination and tasks the FCC to adopt rules to facilitate equal access to broadband internet access service.

"Too many people still do not have the connections they need to fully participate modern life," **said Chairwoman Rosenworcel.** "We want to give consumers the opportunity to share their first-hand experiences and challenges getting and staying online. This will help inform our understanding of when, where, and why digital discrimination happens and will provide important insight for our work moving forward."

In furtherance of the goals to create a framework for addressing digital discrimination and the FCC's ongoing efforts to identify and address harms experienced by historically excluded and marginalized communities, this new <u>form</u> provides a way for consumers to share their broadband access experiences.

Stories shared by consumers will help to inform the work of the Task Force. For more information about the Task Force's work, visit the Task Force's webpage. Interested stakeholders also can use this webpage to request meetings with the Task Force.

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