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For Immediate Release

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER GEOFFREY STARKS
On Fully Funding Rip and Replace

WASHINGTON, April 21, 2023—Federal Communications Commission
Commissioner Geoffrey Starks offered the following statement on the introduction of
legislation to fully fund the FCC’s Secure and Trusted Communications Networks
Reimbursement Program:

“I have consistently argued that we must fully implement the Secure and Trusted
Communications Networks Reimbursement Program to secure our communications
networks from threats posed by insecure equipment and services. I thank Senators
Hickenlooper and Fischer for their continued bipartisan leadership on this issue and
their latest effort to resolve the funding shortfall. As I recently wrote in an [op-ed](#) with
Senator Peters, the time to act is now. For our national security and the success of our
rural communities, we must find a way to fully fund rip and replace.”

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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).*