STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN BRENDAN CARR

Re: *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain through the Equipment Authorization Program*, Second Report and Order and Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, ET Docket No. 21-232 (October 28, 2025).

The Commission has a long history of working together on a bipartisan basis to protect our networks from insecure gear. In fact, it was over 7 years ago now that I first proposed that the agency consider ordering the removal of untrustworthy equipment and prohibiting this spy gear from entering our networks in the first place.

Since then, multiple Administrations, Congresses, and FCCs have come together and taken action. The FCC prohibited Huawei, ZTE, and similar bad actors from obtaining federal subsidies. The FCC revoked the authority of entities that would do the CCP's bidding, like China Unicom and China Telecom, from connecting to our networks. The FCC has overseen the removal of insecure gear from our networks. The FCC has banned Covered List entities from selling new models of their relevant gear. And we recently prohibited Bad Labs, including those located in China, from participating in our equipment authorization program.

These have all been good and important steps towards securing our communications networks. But America's foreign adversaries are constantly looking for ways to exploit any vulnerabilities in our system.

For instance, we have known for years that devices produced by Huawei, Hikvision, and other Covered List entities threaten America's national security. But up to now, FCC rules have not prevented Covered List providers from continuing to sell previously authorized device models. Nor have those rules applied to a device's component parts. These present loopholes that bad actors could use to threaten the security of our networks.

So we take action on both fronts today.

First, we adopt rules that will allow the FCC to prohibit the importation, marketing, or sale of previously authorized devices on a case-by-case basis. With this new rule, the FCC will have a targeted process it can use to address threats posed by the ongoing sales of devices manufactured by Covered List entities.

Second, we adopt rules that will close the component parts loophole. Specifically, these new rules will allow the FCC to prohibit, not only a finished or completed device produced by a Covered List entity, but also otherwise compliant devices that include certain component parts produced by those bad actors.

Finally, the Commission also seeks comment today on a range of ideas that would further enable the agency to crack down on devices that threaten America's national security.

For their work on the item, I want to thank to Deborah Broderson, Rebecca Clinton, Jamie Coleman, Doug Klein, Shannon Lipp, Neal McNeil, Siobahn Philemon, Kevin Pittman, Chris Smeenk, and George Tannahill.