

**SEPARATE STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS**

Re: *Petition of the Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control for Delegated Authority to Implement Specialized Transitional Overlays*

All of us share the frustration consumers are experiencing with the proliferation of new telephone numbers and area codes. But number conservation is not an issue that the federal government can—or should—undertake on its own. We need to work closely with state public utility commissions on numbering issues. States have an integral role to play in number conservation efforts. That is why I am pleased that we address the petition from the Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control today. At the same time, I sincerely hope that other states that follow the path Connecticut blazes here receive a speedier and less conditional response from the Commission. I also hope that the Commission redoubles its efforts to address expeditiously other petitions concerning numbering, including the petition filed last year by the California Public Utilities Commission concerning our contamination threshold requirement.