

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER JONATHAN S. ADELSTEIN**

Re: 2000 Biennial Review – Review of Policies and Rules Concerning Unauthorized Changes of Consumers' Long Distance Carriers; Implementation of the Subscriber Carrier Selection Change Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; Policies and Rules Concerning Unauthorized Changes of Consumers Long Distance Carriers, CC Docket Nos. 00-257, 94-129.

In the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Congress recognized the importance of protecting consumers from unscrupulous practices such as slamming. Through a series of Orders, this Commission has sought to establish and strengthen its anti-slamming rules in a manner consistent with Congress' directive. This Reconsideration Order addresses the unique situation where service providers acquire the entire subscriber base of another provider, rather than the more typical situation under which consumers might switch service providers. This sort of subscriber base transfer has become more common in recent years, as carriers have entered and exited the market. I am pleased this Order affirms that such consumers receive advanced notice of a proposed carrier change and that they receive detailed information about the rates, terms, and conditions of the new provider. By addressing a potentially confusing situation and putting consumers' interests first, we fulfill the consumer protection goal of the Act.