

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS**

RE: Section 68.4(a) of the Commission's Rules Governing Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones; T-Mobile Petition for Waiver of Section 20.19(c)(3)(i)(A) of the Commission's Rules, Memorandum Opinion and Order (WT Docket No. 01-309).

Today's Order grants T-Mobile a short extension in complying with our hearing aid compatibility rules. As I stated last week when the Commission granted a waiver to Cingular Wireless, I am unhappy that we find ourselves having to do this. Again with hesitation, I will support today's action because the brief extension will ensure that Americans with hearing disabilities will soon have access to digital wireless services. In granting this limited waiver, we understand the T-Mobile will have at least one type of HAC-compliant phone in stores by the September 16, 2005 deadline. Under today's waiver, T-Mobile must have an additional phone within one month—and comply with our HAC rules by making four phones available within two months. We have insisted that T-Mobile file reports with the Commission certifying compliance with the applicable HAC rules. I intend to monitor compliance closely—and expect complete resolution by the firm deadline of November 16, 2005.