

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

Re: *NextiraOne, LLC, File No. EB-06-IH-1392*

By ensuring that schools and libraries are connected with the Internet, the E-Rate program continues to perform the critical function of helping to prepare our nation's children to succeed in the Digital Age. Nowhere is this truer than on tribal lands where technology plays a vital role in overcoming geographic, economic, and historical hardships. There are many people in the Schools and Libraries Division, at the FCC and Justice Department, and elsewhere, to be commended for their ongoing oversight of the program to ensure that limited resources go to those who need them most. The conviction and one year debarment of NextiraOne from the E-Rate program are evidence of the ongoing effort to root out waste, fraud, and abuse. While there were mitigating circumstances in this case to support the one year debarment period, I believe that a longer period may have been warranted given the severity of the company's actions and the opportunity to send a message to E-Rate participants that violations of the program will not be tolerated by the FCC. I therefore concur in this Order.