

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER DEBORAH TAYLOR TATE
APPROVING IN PART, CONCURRING IN PART**

Re: Implementation of the Commercial Spectrum Enhancement Act and Modernization of the Commission's Competitive Bidding Rules and Procedures, Order on Reconsideration of the Second Report and Order (WT Docket No. 05-211)

Just last week, I was able to observe first-hand some of the most extraordinary applications of digital communications services in our country, from life-saving telemedicine in very remote villages, to the participation of a parent via satellite in a child's graduation hundreds of miles away. These experiences that we in the lower 48 states take for granted are major feats of coordination in Alaska. I also heard from many of those whose participation in the designated entity ("DE") program is critical to those same remote citizens. I am sympathetic to the concerns of DEs, who argue that requiring repayment of license discounts prior to the end of a ten year "hold period" will discourage investment and potentially limit a significant portion of designated entity participation in future spectrum auctions.

However, as always, our decision involves a balancing of interests. I therefore concur in this decision knowing that our efforts were to strengthen, not weaken, the purposes of the DE program to ensure against the potential for fraud, waste, and abuse, as well as to provide adequate notice in order that the AWS auction can occur in a timely and fair manner.