STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER JOHN BURKE

In the Matter of High-Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45

I agree with my colleagues on the USF Joint Board as to today's Recommended Decision. I would stress the need for a comprehensive solution to be finally adopted by the FCC at the earliest possible date.

Some inequities could result from any cap but inequities undoubtedly already exist at least in part because of the identical support rule as presently applied. I would hope then that the cap never be extended beyond the 18 month period contemplated as the outside margin of this recommendation for development and adoption of these more comprehensive reforms