

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER DEBORAH TAYLOR TATE**

Re: *Rules and Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991*, CG Docket No. 02-278.

As I stated last November, I have been a strong supporter of the Do-Not-Call program as a state commissioner and certainly as a consumer. I am extremely proud of the Tennessee Do-Not-Call Program established in 1999, which has been extremely vigilant in responding to consumer complaints resulting in over \$300,000 in enforcement actions against violators. I am very proud of the work done by the TRA and many other state commissions that oversee state programs for American consumers.

Likewise, the federal government established a national Do-Not-Call program in 2003. As in Tennessee, the Do-Not-Call program has been extremely popular, with approximately 150 million consumers registering their telephone numbers, and has been very successful in curbing the number of unwanted telemarketing calls. That is why the action we are taking today will ensure that this important protection remains an effective means for consumers to be free of unwanted telephone solicitations without action by the consumer or disruption in this important program.