

**STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN KEVIN J. MARTIN**

*Re: The Commercial Mobile Alert System, First Report and Order,
PS Docket No. 07-287*

With the American public increasingly relying on wireless communications in everyday life, it is essential that we support and advance new ways to share critical, time-sensitive information with them in times of crisis. The ability to deliver accurate and timely warnings and alerts through cell phones and other mobile devices is an important next step in our efforts to help ensure that the American public has the information they need to take action to protect themselves and their families prior to, and during, disasters and other emergencies. The Commercial Mobile Services Alert Advisory Committee's recommendations were instrumental in moving this process forward. I commend them for their efforts

No one questions the value that an effective Commercial Mobile Alert System will have on the safety and welfare of the American public. Accordingly, we welcomed the challenge offered to us by the WARN Act as an opportunity to meet our public safety obligations under the Communications Act and to achieve one of our top priorities - an effective alert system for wireless devices.

By adopting technical requirements for the wireless alerting system today, we are enabling wireless providers that choose to participate in this system to begin designing their networks to deliver mobile alerts. It would have been better, of course, if we had a Federal entity in place now to take on the role of alert aggregator and gateway. We are hopeful that we have initiated the dialogue that will allow an appropriate Federal entity to assume that central role in an expeditious manner.

This system has the potential to significantly impact the way Americans receive critical warnings on the go, whether they are at home, work, or vacationing. As we go forward, given the important public safety purpose that these alerts serve, I encourage wireless providers to participate fully in this valuable system.