

**STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN JULIUS GENACHOWSKI**

Re: Implementation of Sections 716 and 717 of the Communications Act of 1934, as Enacted by the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010, CG Docket No. 10-213; Amendments to the Commission's Rules Implementing Sections 255 and 251(a)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as Enacted by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, WT Docket No. 96-198; In the Matter of Accessible Mobile Phone Options for People who are Blind, Deaf-Blind, or Have Low Vision, CG Docket No. 10-145

Today, we are taking a major step forward in helping Americans with disabilities share in the promise of the broadband revolution. By adopting rules today to implement the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act, the most significant disabilities legislation since passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, we will enable individuals with disabilities to fully access the wide array of digital technologies that have done so much to improve Americans' quality of life. As our reliance on technological innovations driven by broadband continues to enhance the way we communicate, this Order will ensure that people with disabilities are not left behind; that they can compete for jobs, participate in online commerce, and engage in civic dialogue using the advanced communications technologies of today – and the technologies of tomorrow that haven't even been invented yet.

In this Order we have observed the balance that Congress struck in the Act - stimulating the development of accessibility solutions that will provide a new world of opportunities for people with disabilities and avoiding counterproductive burdens on product development. The rules we adopt today will promote innovation and investment in this important space and benefit millions of people with disabilities. I thank the staff and my colleagues for their continued dedication to making advanced communications services accessible to all Americans.