

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS
CONCURRING**

Re: *Petition of CRC Communications of Maine, Inc. and Time Warner Cable Inc. for Preemption Pursuant to Section 253 of the Communications Act, as Amended; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime; T-Mobile et al. Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Incumbent LEC Wireless Termination Tariffs*, WC Docket No. 10-143, GN Docket No. 09-51, CC Docket No. 01-92

Competition and Universal Service are cornerstones of the 1996 Telecommunications Act. In order to achieve those goals, Congress created important roles for both state and federal regulators. The narrow legal question before us requires this result but a good policy outcome pulls us in another direction. I'm concerned about the unintended consequences of today's decision on consumers in Maine who rely on these rural phone companies for service. I believe the Maine PUC is best equipped to balance the interests of Maine consumers and carrier responsibilities.