

**STATEMENT OF  
COMMISSIONER ROBERT M. McDOWELL**

Re: *In the Matter of Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization*, WC Docket No. 11-42;  
*Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45; *Lifeline and Link Up*,  
WC Docket No. 03-109

In the context of universal service reform, I have often stressed that reducing waste, fraud and abuse should be one of the FCC's top priorities. This order takes a step in the right direction by ensuring that individuals do not receive duplicate subsidies from the Lifeline program. As such, I support this order. But, there is more to be done, and I look forward to working on additional reforms that will curb waste, fraud and abuse and adhere to Congress' intent for the Lifeline program.