

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER ROBERT M. McDOWELL**

Re: *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90, *High-Cost Universal Service Support*, WC Docket No. 05-337.

The 2011 USF/ICC Transformation Order was a bipartisan, historic feat that many said could not be accomplished. It was a reform effort to flatten the curve of an entitlement while emphasizing the need to expand broadband access to American consumers who are currently unserved. Nevertheless, as I have said since the order was approved, this will be an iterative process. As such, I have been open to learning whether the Commission needs to make a course correction to any parts of our reforms. Today's order does that in a thoughtful way, while not discarding our commitment to fiscal responsibility. Therefore, I support this order.

As we move forward, I am committed to working with all stakeholders and my colleagues to ensure that our reforms continue to promote efficiency in the program through market-based incentives while expanding broadband availability throughout America.