

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER AJIT PAI**

Re: *Annual Assessment of the Status in Competition in the Market for the Delivery of Video Programming*, MB Docket No. 12-203.

I'm pleased to support the Commission's 15th Video Competition Report. This report is quite comprehensive—without appendices, it stands at 185 pages—and it contains a wide range of useful and interesting statistics. But when you take a step back from the blizzard of facts and figures, the report's principal lesson is simple—and profound. Today, more Americans have more choices when it comes to video programming than ever before. They can watch a greater variety of programming than ever before. They can view that programming on a wider array of devices than ever before. And they have a greater ability than ever before to watch that programming when they want to watch it.

All of this means that American consumers are reaping the benefits of competition and innovation in the video marketplace. While many fondly refer to the period between 1948 and 1959 as the Golden Age of Television, there is no time like the present for those who savor quality content. For instance, it used to be that the road from television to feature films was a one-way street for a successful actor. Today, however, it is increasingly common for film stars to move to television to find creatively challenging work. To give just a few examples, Kevin Spacey now stars in the Emmy-nominated Netflix drama *House of Cards*, Jessica Lange is featured in FX's Emmy-nominated *American Horror Story*, and Robin Williams will return to broadcast television this fall in CBS's *The Crazy Ones*.

This report signals good news beyond the state of video competition. In July 2012, we released the 14th iteration of this Report. Almost exactly one year later, we are adopting its successor. This means that we are fulfilling our statutory mandate to “annually report to Congress on the status of competition in the market for the delivery of video programming.”¹ After a bit of a rough patch, it is great to see that we are back on track.

I commend Chairwoman Clyburn for her leadership in making that happen. And I thank all of the Media Bureau staff who worked tirelessly to produce this report: Hillary DeNigro, Marcia Glauber, Dan Bring, Johanna Thomas, Jake Riehm, Erica Porter, Emily Burke, Dana Scherer, Ali Zayas, John Kiefer, John Gabrysch, Sean Mirzadegan, Sean Yun, and Brendan Murray. The care and effort that you put into this report will be obvious to all who read it.

¹ 47 U.S.C. § 548(g).