

**JOINT STATEMENT OF  
COMMISSIONERS MIGNON L. CLYBURN AND MICHAEL O'RIELLY**

Re: *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90, *ETC Annual Reports and Certifications*, WC Docket No. 14-58.

Today's public notice helps ensure that scarce consumer dollars are targeted to only costs directly related to deploying and providing service. The illustrative examples contained within the public notice do not meet that test. Our role is to ensure that any expenses recovered through the consumer-supported federal high-cost universal service program or consumer rates are tied to the provision of service. To be clear, the vast number of providers are good actors and would never take advantage of the system, but there are unfortunate examples to the contrary and spending on outrageous items has occurred. We therefore support today's public notice to remind all providers of expenditures that should not be supported by universal service.

We remain concerned that certain expenses not related to the provision of service, such as for artwork and cafeterias, may oddly be permitted under certain readings of our rules. These decades-old precedents, created under very different circumstances, must be realigned to reflect the Commission's more recent reforms. We believe it is appropriate for the Commission to initiate a proceeding to address these issues in the coming months.