
**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MICHAEL O’RIELLY**

Re: *Inquiry Concerning Deployment of Advanced Telecommunications Capability to All Americans in a Reasonable and Timely Fashion*, GN Docket No. 19-285.

I fully support this Notice of Inquiry, which we undertake pursuant to the Commission’s obligation under Section 706 of the 1996 Telecommunications Act. While I similarly voted to approve the previous two years’ Broadband Deployment Reports, my statements expressed some disappointment over the Commission’s reluctance to acknowledge the substitutability of mobile and fixed broadband among increasing numbers of consumers,¹ and our continued reliance on a technologically anachronistic evaluation framework. I expressed hope that future inquiries would recognize marketplace and technological reality and examine broadband markets in a more neutral and comprehensive manner.

Therefore, I thank Chairman Pai for agreeing to modify the circulated version of this item to address some of my concerns. While the draft still maintains an agnostic position with respect to the substitutability of fixed and mobile broadband, it appropriately opens the door to a more forward-thinking evaluative approach and has my support.

¹ Monica Anderson, *Mobile Technology and Home Broadband 2019*, Pew Research Center (June 13, 2019), <https://www.pewinternet.org/2019/06/13/mobile-technology-and-home-broadband-2019/>.