

**STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN AJIT PAI**

Re: *Promoting Broadcast Internet Innovation through ATSC 3.0*, MB Docket No. 20-145.

Today's Order is another step toward realizing the potential of ATSC 3.0, the next-generation broadcast television standard. Early in my tenure as Chairman, we authorized television broadcasters to use ATSC 3.0 on a voluntary, market-driven basis, and the rollout of ATSC 3.0 has been accelerating in recent months. Television stations in 21 U.S. markets are now broadcasting in ATSC 3.0. And there are now 20 television models available with built-in tuners capable of receiving ATSC 3.0 signals, with more set to hit the shelves in 2021. I believe that the future is promising for ATSC 3.0, not just for the consumers who stand to benefit not only from an improved TV experience (such as watching the Kansas City Chiefs defend their Super Bowl championship in a glorious 4K image), but also a wide range of services such as localized emergency alerts or, as we address here today, Broadcast Internet services.

I am particularly excited by the range of possibilities today's Report and Order will help unlock for noncommercial educational (NCE) stations. For example, these stations are eager to use ATSC 3.0 to deliver educational content through Broadcast Internet services. And as our nation continues to grapple with the ongoing pandemic and its effect on schoolchildren, these services can make a major impact in facilitating remote learning. Recognizing the importance of the services that NCE stations can provide, we cut the ancillary and supplementary services fee for NCE stations in half, from the 5% currently assessed to 2.5%. I'd like to extend my thanks to America's Public Television Stations and the Public Broadcasting Service for their robust support of this item and look forward to seeing the innovative services they will deliver.

I'd also like to thank Commissioner Carr and his office for their leadership in guiding this item to the finish line. And a special thanks to the Commission staff who brought this item to the Report and Order stage only six months after the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking was adopted: from the Media Bureau, Evan Baranoff, Michelle Carey, Lyle Elder, Kim Matthews, Evan Morris, Maria Mullarkey, and Sarah Whitesell; from the Office of General Counsel, David Konczal and Bill Richardson; from the Office of Economics and Analytics, Eugene Kiselev, Emily Talaga, and Andy Wise; and from the Office of Communications Business Opportunities, Belford Lawson.