

**STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN BRENDAN CARR**

Re: *Facilitating More Intensive Use of Upper Microwave Spectrum*, SB Docket No. 25-305, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Oct. 28, 2025).

Starting with our “Space Month” agenda this October, we will be thinking more ambitiously and revisit our rules from first principles to ensure that America is the regulatory forum of choice for space innovators. With this item, we apply that big picture thinking to cut red tape that has throttled satellite infrastructure builds.

Over the last few years, it has become painfully clear that infrastructure reforms are needed to help make more productive use of satellite spectrum—specifically in what we refer to as the upper microwave band, or UMFUS for the uninitiated. Our current siting restrictions for these airwaves are woefully outdated and were artificially plucked out of thin air during a bygone era. So, with today’s item, we will now propose a wide range of reforms to streamline our siting rules so that satellite earth stations can use the UMFUS bands more productively. We view these efforts as win-win, not zero-sum. We are confident that the changes we propose in this item will help earth stations and 5G operators to use these frequency bands more intensively while living side-by-side in harmony.

For their outstanding efforts on this item, I thank Gregory Coutros, Franco Hinojosa, Kerry Murray, Jake Riehm, and Jay Schwarz from the Space Bureau, and John Schauble and Charles Oliver from the Wireless Bureau.