

**STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN BRENDAN CARR**

Re: *Inquiry Concerning Deployment of Advanced Telecommunications Capability to All Americans in a Reasonable and Timely Fashion*, GN Docket No. 25-223, 2026 Section 706 Report (Aug. 14, 2026).

Today's Section 706 Report shows that President Trump's policies and the Commission's Build America agenda are delivering real results for the American people. More Americans than ever have access to affordable, next-gen services. The digital divide is rapidly closing. And a range of data sets show that speeds are up, prices are down, and competition is intensifying.

This report also gets the Commission back to what Congress directed us to do under Section 706: to determine "whether advanced telecommunications capability is being deployed to all Americans in a reasonable and timely fashion." By returning to that straightforward directive, we are able to better evaluate whether new deployments across a range of technologies are delivering meaningful results for Americans.

The numbers speak for themselves. Today, almost 95% of American homes and businesses are covered by 5G at 35/3 Mbps speeds. The percentage of rural Americans lacking access to 100/20 Mbps fixed terrestrial broadband service decreased by over 44% since the last 706 Report. After factoring in satellite, rural broadband deployment is approaching universal availability. Competition is also growing. As of June 2025, 77% of Americans have access to three or more fixed services at 100/20 Mbps.

Other data show that our policies are also having a big impact on pricing and speeds. Actual prices for wireless service have now fallen four times more during President Trump's first 18 months in office compared to the same time under President Biden. Between late 2024 to early 2026, fixed wireless upload speeds increased by 36.9%, while download speeds rose by 25.1%.

Despite the tremendous progress we have made so far, there is more work to do. The Commission will continue to remove regulatory barriers and encourage new builds. We have streamlined the process to transition from outdated copper lines to high-speed, reliable networks. We'll continue to deliver on President Trump's spectrum pipeline plan by executing spectrum auctions and approving secondary market transactions. These Build America agenda initiatives are integral to unleashing fast, affordable broadband nationwide.

Thank you to staff for their hard work on this item, including AJ Burton, Jodie May, Ed Krachmer, Rachael Sznajder, Joseph Calascione, Rich Mallen, Derek Yeo, Barbara Esbin, Matt Warner, Garnet Hanley, Susannah Larson, Kerry Murray, Stephanie Neville, Amanda Betag, Judith Dempsey, Cole Campbell, Mack Wachala, Molly Schwarz, and Steve Kauffman.