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**For Immediate Release**

**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MICHAEL O’RIELLY  
ON SIXTH CIRCUIT MUNICIPAL BROADBAND DECISION**

WASHINGTON, August 10, 2016. — “Although this saga may not end here, I am heartened by Sixth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals’ decision. The FCC clearly tried to invoke imaginary authority and finally was called out by a court for doing so.

Unless Congress specifically authorizes FCC intervention, States rightly can limit government-operated broadband networks in order to protect their citizens’ pocketbooks and good senses. Contrary to some beliefs, municipal networks are not panaceas to solving any lack of ubiquitous broadband, but instead unfairly distort the marketplace.”

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*This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).*