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For Immediate Release

**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MICHAEL O'RIELLY
ON THE 18th ANNUAL WIRELESS COMPETITION REPORT**

WASHINGTON, December 23, 2015. — Yet again, the request for this year's Wireless Competition Report to be voted on by the Commissioners was denied. As I said last year, the release of the report on delegated authority was likely to set precedent for future reports, and that is exactly what has happened. The statute states that the Commission, not the Bureau, must report annually about the state of the mobile industry. I will continue to object to this continued delegation of authority to staff. The data in this report is being used by this Commission as a foundation for regulatory decisions and, therefore, should contain input from and be approved by the Commissioners. Further, the statute states that the report must contain "an analysis of whether or not there is effective competition." It amazes me that with more than 90 percent of Americans having a choice of four or more wireless providers that we are incapable of concluding, as directed by Congress, whether this industry is competitive.

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