

Resolution on Telephone Numbering

WHEREAS, New telecommunications services and competition between those services has provided consumers with new opportunities and lower priced alternatives to traditional telephone services; *and*

WHEREAS, The growth in new telecommunications services has also raised issues pertaining to telephone number exhaust that are currently being responded to by state commissions, the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and the telecommunications industry; *and*

WHEREAS, Unless telephone numbers are assigned in a more efficient manner, growth in new services could accelerate telephone number exhaust in the North American Numbering Plan; *and*

WHEREAS, The States, the FCC, the telecommunications industry and the North American Numbering Council ("NANC") have been working together to implement various telephone numbering conservation and optimization measures to establish a more efficient method of assigning telephone numbers; *and*

WHEREAS, Many States have recognized the need for action on numbering issues and have petitioned the FCC for additional delegated authority to better conserve numbering resources within their individual State; *and*

WHEREAS, The FCC has recognized the significant role States have in numbering issues and have granted in some part 25 of the State petitions while additional State petitions remain pending; *and*

WHEREAS, State commissions with additional numbering authority have issued a number of decisions and orders addressing numbering issues, including, but not limited to number exhaustion and pooling issues; *and*

WHEREAS, The composition of the NANC consists of 30 members with 20 members representing the industry, 4 members representing the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) States and 3 members representing the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA) States; *and*

WHEREAS, Even though the FCC has increased the State representation to the NANC, additional State representation would provide a better balance between industry and public interests and ensure that the States have greater input in the NANC decision making process when advising the FCC; *and*

WHEREAS, As a result of competition and the advent of new technologies assignment of large blocks of telephone numbers has caused area codes to exhaust more rapidly than they would otherwise forcing citizens to undergo area code relief through the introduction of new area codes; *and*

WHEREAS, One solution offered to delay area code exhaust is to assign new area codes by service type; *and*

WHEREAS, The wireless industry is one of the most prolific growth industries in the country today, experiencing nearly 40% growth rates, making it highly unlikely that service type number assignment would deter its continued growth; *and*

WHEREAS, Various States have petitioned the FCC to permit the assignment of telephone numbers by service/technology overlays refuting the idea that such assignment would be anti-competitive; *and*

WHEREAS, The FCC has recently imposed certain appropriate reporting requirements and technological upgrades that attempts to lead to improved utilization of numbering resources; *and*

WHEREAS, The FCC in CC Docket No. 99-200, In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization, released March 31, 2000, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NRO") does not direct the North American Numbering Plan Administrator ("NANPA") to make CO Code application materials available to the States. NANPA shall not spend any extra resources in providing such materials to the States; *and*

WHEREAS, States require unrestricted access to carrier data to effectively implement and administer number conservation measures; *and*

WHEREAS, Number pooling, a key measure to improving the optimization of numbering resources, requires implementation of local number portability; *and*

WHEREAS, The FCC has extended the date to November 24, 2002, by which all wireless providers must be LNP-capable; *and*

WHEREAS, State commissions have been informed by some carriers that they will be unable to comply with reporting requirements as ordered by the States in response to the numbering conservation authority previously delegated to them by the FCC; *now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened in its 2000 Summer Meetings in Los Angeles, California, states that the association appreciates the FCC's recent additional NARUC and NASUCA appointments to the NANC; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, NARUC recommends that the FCC adjust the membership of the NANC by adding three additional NARUC members to the council bringing the total NARUC participation to seven; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, NARUC urges the FCC on an expedited basis to establish parameters for the implementation of service/technology overlays and act on the States' pending service/technology specific overlay petitions; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC urges the FCC to authorize the establishment of one or more national non-service-specific area codes that would be available on a voluntary basis to service providers that do not require geographically specific NXXs; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC urges the FCC to act expeditiously on the pending State petitions for additional delegated authority for implementing numbering conservation measures; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC urges the FCC to permit States at their option, to implement area codes for certain services/technologies in order to delay the exhaust of State Number Plan Areas; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC urges the FCC to ensure carrier data is readily available to the individual States free of charge; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC urges the FCC to affirm authorized State commissions' orders regarding telephone numbering decisions and the States' ability to exercise their delegated authority on numbering issues and require carriers to comply with previous State commission decisions and orders; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC urges the FCC to maintain November 24, 2002, as the date by which all wireless providers must become LNP-capable.

Sponsored by the Committee on Telecommunications
Adopted by the Board of Directors, July 26, 2000