

Resolution Supporting Legislative Proposals That Encourage the Deployment of Broadband Technologies and Advanced Services

WHEREAS, The deployment of infrastructure to provide broadband deployment has become a concern for several states and consumers; and

WHEREAS, Several bills have been introduced in the House and Senate that seek to encourage deployment of advanced services. While NARUC has opposed S 877 and HR 2420 and similar bills, other proposals seek to address the issue of ensuring that markets remain open to competition pursuant to the 1996 Act; *now, therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners ("NARUC"), convened at its Summer Meeting in Los Angeles, California, supports legislation that would encourage the deployment of broadband technology and advanced services to underserved areas (areas without affordable broadband deployment) without removing RBOC incentives to meet Section 271 requirements; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, Any legislative proposal promoting the deployment of broadband technologies and advanced services to rural and underserved areas should consider the following concepts:

- low-interest, technology and carrier neutral loans to those seeking to deploy broadband services to rural and under served communities;
- additional financial incentives, such as tax credits, to

carriers that are deploying advanced services where existing incentives and support, including high cost loop support, are inadequate;

- effective enforcement tools to ensure that carriers meet their obligations with respect to broadband deployment; and be it further

RESOLVED, Legislation should keep intact the market-opening requirements contained in the 1996 Act.

Sponsored by the Committee on Telecommunications

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors, July 26, 2000.