

**Resolution Adopting NARUC Federal Telecommunications
Legislative Policy Principles**

WHEREAS, Telecommunications legislation has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate to address such issues as local exchange competition, universal service, infrastructure development, interconnection and equal access requirements, removal of cable-telco cross-ownership restrictions, modification of MFJ restrictions on BOC entry into manufacturing, interLATA services and electronic publishing and alarm services; and

WHEREAS, The Administration has stated its support for comprehensive legislation to amend the Communications Act of 1934; and

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) agrees with many of the principles on which the current legislative efforts are based; and

WHEREAS, The NARUC is concerned that the bills contain provisions that would alter the jurisdictional authority of the Federal Communications Commission and State public utility commissions in regulating interstate and intrastate communications, with some aspects of State regulation preempted and primary responsibility for other activities transferred to the FCC; and

WHEREAS, During the transition to local competition, States have a critical role to play in preserving and advancing universal service, protecting the public safety and welfare, ensuring the continued quality of telecommunications services, safeguarding the rights of consumers and providing for just and reasonable rates; and

WHEREAS, The NARUC has been and will continue to be an active participant in the Federal legislative process to ensure that the interests and views of local telephone service ratepayers in each State are fully represented; and

WHEREAS, The NARUC's Federal legislative efforts should be guided by a set of policy principles that underscore the role of State regulators in the transition to local competition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened at its 1994 Winter Meetings in Washington, D.C., hereby adopts the NARUC Federal telecommunications legislative policy principles attached to this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC use these principles to analyze and respond to Federal telecommunications legislation in the appropriate forum.

Sponsored by the Committee on Communications
Adopted March 2, 1994
Reported NARUC Bulletin, No. 11-1994, pp. 5-6