Resolution Honoring Commissioner Marsha Smith

WHEREAS, After 34-plus years of dedicated service to the citizens of Idaho, Commissioner Marsha Smith is retiring from the Idaho Public Utilities Commission; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Smith's well-known distaste for honorary resolutions is duly noted, but ignored; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Smith started at the Idaho PUC as a deputy attorney general in 1980, but eventually caught the eye of Idaho Governor Cecil Andrus, who appointed her commissioner in January 1991; and

WHEREAS, Four consecutive governors of both parties have appointed or re-appointed Commissioner Smith; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Smith's dedicated involvement with and commitment to the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners began almost immediately from the time of her employment at the Idaho PUC, serving on the Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Staff Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues-Waste Disposal and the Electricity Committee; *and*

WHEREAS, Her peers, immediately recognizing her leadership skills, elevated Commissioner Smith to the chairmanship of the Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications and later to the chairmanship of the Electricity Committee, and eventually elected her to the NARUC Board of Directors in 1999, where she has served ably to the present day; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Smith willingly took on other challenging tasks such as serving as Co-Chair of NARUC's Ad Hoc Committee on Electric Industry Restructuring, NARUC's Observer to the North American Electric Reliability Council, and co-chair of the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency; *and*

WHEREAS, Her tireless work for her State and for NARUC eventually led to her election as President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners in 2007-08; *and*

WHEREAS, She is perhaps the first-ever NARUC president to actually wear a crown; and

WHEREAS, Her colleagues, fully realizing that such knowledge cannot be confined to domestic shores, were willing to lend her expertise to regulatory leaders in distant cities, including, but not limited to, Lisbon, Athens, Montreal, Sidney, Beijing and Budapest; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Smith also willingly gave up her time to serve in regional and national organizations as co-chair of the Northern Tier Transmission Steering Committee, chair of the Committee for Regional Electric Power Cooperation of the Western Interstate Energy Board and member of the Advisory Board of the Electric Power Research Institute, of the Harvard Electric Policy Group, of the Western Systems Coordinating Council, and as Idaho's representative on the Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Smith was able to show her indomitable spirit and skills as a leader in areas most difficult: trying to start NARUC meetings on time and dealing with the rabble-rousers at commissioner-only luncheons; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Smith's service will be greatly missed, not only by her colleagues but also by all manufacturers, distributors and retailers of dark chocolate and Diet Coke; *and*

WHEREAS, Her colleagues agree that she must now be given time to enjoy the companionship of her family, camp in Idaho's scenic backcountry, line dance wherever it is still allowed, and provide consultation to any party wise enough to seek it; *now*, *therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 126th Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California, extend their profound gratitude and well wishes to Commissioner Marsha Smith of Idaho who wore her crown very well.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors November 18, 2014 Adopted by the NARUC Committee of the Whole November 19, 2014