

Resolution Honoring Joe Cusick

WHEREAS, Joe announced his retirement in 2008 and has delayed that retirement for the good of the public, the Idaho Public Utilities Commission and the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) until now; *and*

WHEREAS, Joe, having unsuccessfully tried once to retire, is ready to give it another go, and this time he “really” means it; *and*

WHEREAS, Joe has written enough NARUC resolutions and position papers and now simply wants to escape being one of the authors of the Federalism Task Force paper by retiring well before his time; *and*

WHEREAS, Joe, ever one to complain about the unnecessary wordiness or length of a resolution, will now have perhaps the longest and most wordy honorary resolution in NARUC history when you combine all the resolutions from his various retirements; *and*

WHEREAS, Joe was always known and could be counted upon to offer minor wording or major linguistic changes, depending on what resolution and text was at issue, in the truest spirit(s) of (a) the Oxford English Dictionary; (b) Webster’s Collegiate, (c) Strunck & White; (d) Kate Turabian, (e) Noam Chomsky or (f) FAIL – all of the above, depending on the resolution and text at issue; *and*

WHEREAS, Joe has made time for even the newbies to NARUC, showing them how to persuade commissioners and staffers alike to do the right thing; *and*

WHEREAS, Joe has demonstrated an uncanny ability to become a serial-retiree, lacking only the presence of Rachel Nichols on his front lawn to complete his Favre impersonation; *and*

WHEREAS, Joe’s mere presence at Yankee Stadium resulted in the demolition and replacement of the “House that Ruth Built” complete with “Death Valley” and “Ruthville” upon conclusion of that infamous 2008 season; *and*

WHEREAS, After getting his voice back and over using it at each NARUC meeting since to snipe at others for change, after change, after change to every single resolution has driven him to once again head off into the sunset; *and*

WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey is pleased to acknowledge the efforts and indelible mark left upon NARUC by Joe Cusick, a formerly uncelebrated son from the Garden State; and in so doing, we appreciate that he now joins a long list of high-achievers and generators of good will for the Garden State which include such names as President Grover Cleveland, Walt Whitman, Frank Sinatra, Yogi Berra, Justice Antonin Scalia, Bill Parcells, Jon Bon Jovi and most of the cast from the HBO Series “The Sopranos;” *and*

WHEREAS, Joe would often hear in his former role as Staff Chair of the US West/Qwest Regional Oversight Committee working with former Commissioner Chairs Rowe, Thoms and Garvey that if he could survive working with them, he could survive anything – not only like it, but prosper; *and*

WHEREAS, Many of us on the Staff subcommittee view Joe as our “elder” statesman. We will miss his wisdom, insights, patience, and rationality. As a wise man once said (Jimi Hendrix) “knowledge speaks but wisdom listens” and Joe does both. However, more troubling is his leaving will make the rest of us look even older; *and*

WHEREAS, Among Joe’s many wise and practical comments was, “It doesn’t make any difference what the WHEREAS’ say, it’s the resolves that count;” *and*

WHEREAS, Joe is always more than willing to go out of his way to tutor fledgling Subcommittee Staff to provide valuable insight based on his incredible intellect and vast experience as a manager in the telecommunications sector; *now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2013 Winter Committee Meetings in Washington, D.C., extends its sincere appreciation to Joe Cusick for his many years of public service to the State of Idaho and to NARUC and wishes him great success in all his future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on Telecommunications

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors, February 6, 2013