## Resolution Supporting Fair Expenditure of Energy Efficiency Funds in All Customer Sectors

**WHEREAS**, Natural gas and electric companies, along with other energy efficiency program administrators, expended more than \$5 billion on energy efficiency programs in 2009, as estimated by the Consortium for Energy Efficiency; *and* 

**WHEREAS**, Some States, in cooperation with their utilities, have already committed to substantially increasing their energy efficiency expenditures, with some States planning to double or triple those expenditures in the near future; *and* 

**WHEREAS**, Energy efficiency programs for owners of, or tenants living in, multifamily affordable housing have in the past not always been well-designed for easy access; *and* 

**WHEREAS**, It is important for all consumers to benefit from energy efficiency programs including low-income households, the elderly, those living on fixed incomes, and owners and tenants in multifamily affordable housing; *and* 

**WHEREAS**, Multifamily affordable housing, including housing assisted by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development and state housing finance agencies, or receiving assistance via the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, provides critically needed housing for some of the poorest families in America; *and* 

**WHEREAS**, This same multifamily affordable housing stock is, on average, older than the entire U.S. housing stock; contains older appliances; and is generally less energy efficient than other housing; *and* 

**WHEREAS**, Energy efficiency programs result in more affordable utility services for low-income consumers in multifamily buildings and, therefore, reduce the number of customers disconnected for non-payment; *and* 

**WHEREAS**, Utility companies could achieve significant cost-effective energy savings by investing more of their energy efficiency programs funds in affordable multifamily housing, while also helping to preserve that energy costs are as affordable for the tenants; *now*, *therefore be it* 

**RESOLVED,** That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2011 Summer Committee Meetings in Los Angeles, California, finds that utilities and other program administrators which expend energy efficiency funds collected via utility bills should consider spending a fair share of those funds in each of the customer sectors served, including, but not limited to, the affordable, multifamily housing sector; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That utilities and other energy efficiency program administrators that deliver energy efficiency programs to affordable multifamily buildings should consider ensuring that such programs improve awareness of energy costs and the importance of energy efficiency

among tenants and owners in rental properties, reasonably meet the needs of those owners and tenants, and offer the opportunity for "one-stop shopping" --- that is, offer the owner of multifamily housing a simple, single point of entry to apply for utility-funded energy efficiency services, even if the owner's property includes a mix of individual (tenant-paid) meters and master meters, and/or a mix of building size and types (e.g., low-rise, high-rise, duplex, townhouse); and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That public utility commissions, in proceedings in which utility expenditures on energy efficiency are being raised, should use their discretion when appropriate to investigate the extent to which the company's energy efficiency programs are fairly serving all customer sectors, including but not limited to the affordable multifamily sector.

Sponsored by the Committees on Energy Resources and the Environment and Consumer Affairs

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors July 20, 2011