 WHEREAS, On February 24, 1999, the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC Board of Directors) adopted a resolution supporting “federal efforts to collect consistent data on local competition and broadband deployment on a State-by-State basis”; and

 WHEREAS, On October 22, 1999, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in CC Docket 99-301 seeking comment on the need for a mandatory information collection about the status of competition for local telephone services and deployment of broadband services; and

 WHEREAS, Section 706 of the federal Telecommunications Act directs the Commission and each State commission to encourage the deployment on a reasonable and timely basis of advanced telecommunications capability to all Americans; and

 WHEREAS, Access to consistent, comprehensive, and reliable information about the status of competition for local telecommunications services and broadband deployment will enhance the ability of policy makers to develop, evaluate, and revise policy in these dynamic markets; and

 WHEREAS, The NPRM tentatively concludes that a federal information collection concerning the status of local competition and broadband deployment would benefit Federal and State policymakers, consumers, and others; and

 WHEREAS, The benefits of the collection the information on the status of competition for local telephone services and deployment of broadband services and the ability of Federal and State policymakers, consumers, and others to utilize the information can only be fully realized if such information is publicly available; now, therefore, be it

 RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) convened in its 2000 Winter Meetings in Washington, D.C., commends the Federal Communications Commission for its efforts collect reliable and systematic information about the state of competition for local telephone services and deployment of broadband services and encourages the Commission to adopt a mandatory information collection as soon as possible; and be it further

 RESOLVED, That NARUC encourages all providers of broadband services to participate actively in the FCC’s Second Advanced Telecommunications Capability proceeding by submitting detailed and specific data about the status of their broadband deployment, and encourages all providers of broadband services and local exchange services to participate in any mandatory or voluntary Federal and State data gathering programs; and be it further

 RESOLVED, That NARUC urges the FCC, to the maximum extent possible, giving appropriate sensitivity to the possible proprietary nature of the information and the cost burden on carriers, to make the information collected publicly available so that the information may be utilized by Federal and State policymakers, consumers, and others to develop, evaluate, and revise policy affecting the status of competition for local telecommunications services and broadband deployment; and be it further
RESOLVED, That NARUC directs its General Counsel to provide a copy of this resolution to the FCC.

Sponsored by the Committee on Telecommunications
Adopted by the Board of Directors, March 8, 2000