

Resolution in Support of Appliance Efficiency Standards and Building Codes

WHEREAS, Congress enacted the National Appliance Energy Conservation Act (NAECA) in 1987 and the Energy Policy Act of 1992 which established that the U.S. Department of Energy should develop appliance and equipment efficiency standards for selected residential and commercial products (e.g., refrigerators, clothes washers, furnaces, dryers), with support from national appliance manufacturers as well as energy standards in buildings; *and*

WHEREAS, The cost of this program to DOE has been about \$8 million annually and has already saved residential consumers about \$2 billion in their energy bills. Moreover, DOE estimates that net savings are expected to grow to \$130 billion over the lifetime of the products covered by these standards; *and*

WHEREAS, Nationally-established efficiency and building standards provide a particularly cost-effective means to achieving widespread energy efficiency and thus preserve environmental quality and reduce the need for construction of expensive electric generation facilities; *and*

WHEREAS, Over time, investment in building codes and appliance efficiency standards will reduce ratepayer expenditures for utility DSM programs and will enable low income households to better meet their energy expenses; *and*

WHEREAS, This program cannot effectively be done at the State level due to the need for national standards; *and*

WHEREAS, The U.S. House of Representatives recently passed an amendment to appropriations legislation which would prohibit the DOE from spending any money implementing existing and new appliance efficiency standards; *now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners convened in its 1995 Summer Meeting in San Francisco, California supports continued funding for the Department of Energy to develop building codes and appliance and equipment efficiency standards that are included in the Energy Policy Act of 1992 and NAECA.

*Sponsored by the Committee on Energy Conservation
Adopted July 26, 1995*