

Resolution Regarding Debit Cards

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' (NARUC) Communications Committee staff has conducted a survey on debit cards during April of 1994 to address and develop policy recommendations associated with the debit card industry; and

WHEREAS, The NARUC Communications Committee staff has received comments on debit cards from 64 parties including 49 State regulatory agencies, the Federal Communications Commission and several local exchange carriers; and

WHEREAS, The NARUC Communications Committee staff also has held a panel presentation, meetings and conference calls with these participants to discuss proposed guidelines for the debit card industry; and

WHEREAS, There is broad consensus among these parties that guidelines for the debit card industry are necessary; and

WHEREAS, The jurisdictional minutes of usage of calls placed with debit card, may not be currently measured and reported accurately or at all, and exacerbates the existing problems with PIU reported by resellers, interexchange carriers, and others; and

WHEREAS, The NARUC Communications Committee staff has prepared a report in which it has presented a discussion of issues and objectives, and a brief summary of State activities that should be considered in any review of debit cards; and

WHEREAS, The NARUC Communications Committee staff report provides proposed principles for the debit card industry; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the NARUC Executive Committee, convened at its 1994 Summer Meetings in San Diego, California, agrees that a review of debit cards is needed, and the remaining issues such as an industry "Seal of Approval", model user information filings, forfeiture to the State, and other issues as identified in the paper need further analysis; and be it further

RESOLVED, That while NARUC takes no position on the Communications Committee staff report, it nonetheless believes that the issues and proposed principles offered for consideration should be used as the basis for a formal review by State and Federal agencies; and be it further

RESOLVED, That nothing in these principles should be interpreted as precluding States from imposing jurisdictional reporting requirements on resellers or carriers providing debit card services.

Sponsored by the Committee on Communications
Adopted July 27, 1994
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