Resolution Regarding the International Trade Negotiations on Telecommunications Services

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) represents the interests of many state regulatory commissions before the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) represents its interests in matters before the United States Congress and recently established a division to review activities affecting the interstate jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, The United States Trade Representative is currently discussing multilateral trade matters of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) through the Group of Negotiations on Services (GNS); and

WHEREAS, The public switched telecommunications network and its oversight may be affected by the result of these negotiations; and

WHEREAS, These negotiations are scheduled to conclude by December 1990; and

WHEREAS, If approved by the United States Senate and signed by the President, the terms and conditions of the GATT will be binding on all State and Federal telecommunication regulations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), assembled at its 1990 Summer Committee Meeting in Los Angeles, California, urges members of the NARUC and the FCC to take action to ensure their views and concerns on the GATT negotiations are placed before the United States Trade Representative prior to the next scheduled meeting of the NARUC; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the NARUC and FCC establish a joint international study group with the United States Department of Commerce, United States Department of State and other appropriate agencies of the Federal government to review those issues that may affect the State and Federal jurisdictions, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the NARUC supports sponsoring an International Telecommunications Conference to be held in the United States.

Sponsored by Committee on Communications
Adopted July 25, 1990