

Resolution Supporting Adequate Funding for the Weatherization Assistance Program

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program has served more than 5.7 million low-income families and is one of the most effective energy efficiency programs in the United States; *and*

WHEREAS, Federal funding for Weatherization is a magnet for supporting funding from other sources; *and*

WHEREAS, The typical Weatherization recipient is a single mother with two children making \$8,000 per year, and low-income families spend 16 percent of their annual income on energy, compared with 5 percent for other households; *and*

WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Department of Energy, families who have their homes weatherized will generally save between \$300 and \$400 each year on energy bills allowing them a better opportunity to pay their future energy bills; *and*

WHEREAS, Federal Fiscal Year 2006 and 2007 funding for Weatherization was \$242.5 million and \$242.0 million, respectively; *and*

WHEREAS, The Administration has proposed a budget of \$144.0 million for Fiscal Year 2008, which represents a 40 percent decrease from 2006 and 2007 funding; *and*

WHEREAS, The Energy Policy Act of 2005 authorized the Weatherization Program at a level of \$700 million for federal Fiscal Year 2008; *and*

WHEREAS, If the Administration's cuts are enacted, every State will experience a reduction in funding, and nationwide almost 40,000 families will be denied weatherization services; *now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its February 2007 Winter Meetings in Washington, D.C., urges the Congress to fund Weatherization at no less than \$257.3 million for Federal Fiscal Year 2008.

*Sponsored by the Committees on Consumers Affairs and Gas
Adopted by NARUC Board of Directors February 21, 2007*