

Resolution Concerning the Deployment and Continuous Improvement
of an Enhanced Public Safety Service

WHEREAS, Protecting the public health, welfare and safety are fundamental responsibilities of State government throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, A means of protection is providing access to emergency services through a reliable, efficient 9-1-1 system; and

WHEREAS, Notwithstanding the capability of existing 9-1-1 networks to perform reliably and consistently, changes in telecommunications technology, additions of numerous competitive providers and the explosive growth in wireless technology have resulted in strains to the traditional 9-1-1 network; and

WHEREAS, The National Emergency Number Association (NENA) in their recent Report Card to the Nation on 9-1-1, identified a need to upgrade the 9-1-1 networks and databases in order for the systems to survive in the future; and

WHEREAS, The majority of State public utility commissions do not have a coordinated effort on 9-1-1 technology advancements with State or local public safety agencies; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened in its November 2001 113th Annual Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, believes that 9-1-1 operation and coordination of services by State, County and local governments is a sound method of

administering the nation's 9-1-1 service; and be it further

RESOLVED, That State regulators should encourage and foster the forces of competition in order to facilitate the use of current technology in the upgrade of America's 9-1-1 network; and be it further

RESOLVED, NARUC encourages individual States to conduct comprehensive reviews of their 9-1-1 regulations and strengthen efforts to deploy and improve their 9-1-1 systems through coordinated efforts with NENA and public safety agencies within their States.

Sponsored by the Committee on Telecommunications.

Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors November 13, 2001. Adopted in Convention November 14, 2001.