

Resolution Concerning Reauthorization of the Safe Drinking Water Act

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) previously has resolved to support reform and improvements that enable water suppliers to more efficiently provide clean, safe drinking water and more effectively safeguard public safety and health; *and*

WHEREAS, The Senate passed legislation (S. 1316) to reauthorize the Safe Drinking Water Act during the first session of the 104th Congress; *and*

WHEREAS, S. 1316 was the result of an inclusive process in which all interested parties participated; *and*

WHEREAS, This bipartisan bill was forged and passed by the Senate with 99 votes; *and*

WHEREAS, The timely passage of legislation to reauthorize the Safe Drinking Water Act is in the public interest; *now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened at its 1996 Winter Meeting in Washington, D.C., reiterates its support for the purposes of the Act to improve the safety and quality of the nation's drinking water supplies, and believes that S. 1316 fully represents the reforms, improvements, and principles that meet the NARUC goals; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That during House consideration of legislation to reauthorize the Safe Drinking Water Act, the following principles be incorporated:

1. Standards should be set through a process by which costs, benefits and affordability are considered;
2. Funding to promote compliance with drinking water standards should be provided through the State Revolving Fund to all water systems, regardless of ownership;
3. Potential regulation of new contaminants should be considered on the basis of public health significance, likelihood of occurrence and cost-benefit analysis, and provide the States with flexibility in implementation;
4. States should support capacity development to promote technical, financial and managerial viability of drinking water systems;
5. Resources should be provided for technology transfer, information dissemination and promotion of best water treatment and operation practices; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That the NARUC through its Water Committee and the appropriate NARUC officers and administration continue to monitor these issues and provide input and comments to Congress and the relevant enforcement authorities with regard to reauthorization of the Act and development of appropriate regulations, and that such input shall be consistent with this and past comments and statements of policy.