

Resolution Honoring Illinois Commissioner Lula M. Ford

WHEREAS, Commissioner Lula Ford is retiring from the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) after ten years of dedicated public service; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Lula Ford was appointed Commissioner of the ICC in 2003 and reappointed to a second term on the ICC in 2008; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Lula Ford served as the first African-American woman to serve on the ICC in its 95-year history; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Lula Ford graduated from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and earned further degrees from Northeastern University (M.A. Urban Studies) and the University of Illinois (M.A. in Science, Career Education and Vocational Guidance) and this led to a long distinguished career in education and energy; *and*

WHEREAS, She is active in the NARUC Committee on Gas and has chaired the ICC's Gas Policy Committee and served, by appointment from Secretary Ray LaHood, to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Technical Pipeline Safety Standards Committee, serving as an excellent chair and presiding over many TPSSC Committee and Joint Committee meetings; *and*

WHEREAS, Ms. Ford started her career as an elementary school teacher and continued to serve by counseling at-risk students, coordinating school mathematic programs, serving as the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Reading Teacher and Coordinator, organizing GED programs and Black History programs for the Effective Schools Campaign and much more. During her tenure as principal, Commissioner Ford was awarded the Principal of Excellence Award for in 1992, 1993 and 1994. She also earned the Walter H. Dyett Middle School Women in History Award, the Kathy Osterman Award, and the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Ford is a proud and active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the Lakeshore Chapter (IL) of The Links, Incorporated, and the board of the Trinity Higher Education Corporation; *and*

WHEREAS, NARUC will miss Commissioner Ford's strong leadership, quiet confidence and no-nonsense manner, and nurturing spirit which aided her across the range of her NARUC activities, as well as living vicariously through stories of the incredible accomplishments of her successful daughter Charisse; *now, therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2013 Summer Meetings in Denver, Colorado, extend their gratitude to Commissioner Ford for her service to NARUC, Illinois and the citizens of the United States and their best wishes to Ms. Ford in her future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on Gas

Adopted by the Board of Directors July 24, 2013