Resolution Honoring Kentucky Commissioner David Armstrong

WHEREAS, David Armstrong on October 16, 2015, completed his service as chairman of the Kentucky Public Service Commission and thereby became an emeritus member of the National Association of Utility Regulatory Commissioners (NARUC); and

WHEREAS, David Armstrong’s tenure as Chairman of the Kentucky Public Service Commission from 2008 to 2015 was the capstone of a long career as a public servant, which has included terms as Commonwealth’s Attorney, Jefferson County Judge-Executive, Kentucky Attorney General and Mayor of the City of Louisville; and

WHEREAS, Before becoming a utility regulator, David Armstrong served in many leadership positions, including as president of the National Council of County Executives, chairman of the Southern Conference of Attorneys General and president of the National District Attorneys of America; and

WHEREAS, David Armstrong’s service to NARUC included three years as chairman of the NARUC Committee on International Relations and membership on the NARUC Board of Directors and the Committee on Electricity; and

WHEREAS, David Armstrong contributed to utility regulation through his service as president of the Mid-Atlantic Conference of Regulatory Utilities Commissions, and memberships on the Research Advisory Committee of the National Regulatory Research Institute, the advisory committee to the Midwest Independent System Operator, and the advisory council for the Center for Public Utilities at New Mexico State University; and

WHEREAS, David Armstrong’s steady hand guided the Kentucky Public Service Commission through a time of rapid change in the electric and natural gas industries and earned the Kentucky Public Service Commission a reputation for fair, balanced, responsible and transparent regulatory practices; and

WHEREAS, David Armstrong was a strong supporter of NARUC’s international efforts, and initiated the commission’s partnerships with the Republic of Georgia and with Nigeria; and

WHEREAS, David Armstrong’s involvement in international regulatory activities included service on the planning committee for the 2012 World Forum on Energy Regulation and participation in the Black Sea Partnership and the Energy Regulators Regional Association, including the 2011 General Assembly in St. Petersburg, Russia; and

WHEREAS, David Armstrong encouraged the Kentucky Public Service Commission staff to participate in other NARUC-sponsored international activities, and opened the doors of the Commission to international delegations from Pakistan, Russia, and Ukraine; and

WHEREAS, David Armstrong has introduced both NARUC members and international visitors to Kentucky’s many treasures, including horse racing, baseball bat manufacturing, bourbon distilling, and the legacy of his friend Muhammad Ali; and
WHEREAS, David Armstrong’s leadership in Louisville was instrumental in revitalizing the city’s downtown area and transforming it into a mecca for foodies, hipsters and sports fans, while making him a rock star in the world of extreme sports; and

WHEREAS, David Armstrong’s career has brought him friends around the globe, ranging from Mikhail Gorbachev to Tony Hawk; and

WHEREAS, David Armstrong needs more time to devote to his many civic responsibilities, including as a trustee of the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law and on the boards of the Filson Historical Society, the Kentucky Opera, and the Muhammad Ali Center; and

WHEREAS, David Armstrong’s remarkable career merits a memoir that cannot be written as long as he is occupied with the minutiae of utility regulation; and

WHEREAS, David Armstrong has a wife and two children who wish to spend more time with him and two granddaughters in dire need of fishing lessons; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 127th Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas, extend its gratitude to Commissioner Armstrong for his service to NARUC, and to his city, state and nation, and express their best wishes for his future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on International Relation
Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors November 10, 2015
Adopted by the NARUC Committee of the Whole November 11, 2015