

Resolution Promoting Adoption and Usage of Broadband Technologies in Low-Income Communities

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) is committed to advancing the deployment of broadband technologies and access across the United States; *and*

WHEREAS, State regulators have implemented policies to ensure the rapid deployment of broadband technologies and infrastructure for the benefit of consumers and our economy; *and*

WHEREAS, The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has found that advanced telecommunications continues to play a critical role in the economy of the United States and in American life; and Congress requires that the FCC “take immediate action to accelerate deployment of such capability by removing barriers to infrastructure investment and by *promoting competition* in the telecommunications market;” *and*

WHEREAS, Dramatic changes in broadband Internet technology have fundamentally changed how people do their jobs, address climate change issues, educate themselves, receive healthcare and communicate with friends and family; *and*

WHEREAS, NARUC supports community programs and other public or private initiatives which highlight the importance that national, State and local governments play in ensuring the active development and deployment of broadband Internet technologies to all of its citizens; *now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2008 Summer Meetings in Portland, Oregon, urges government, businesses, providers, and the nonprofit sectors to expand broadband technology access, adoption, availability, delivery, education and usage in low-income communities; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC supports programs and initiatives which eliminate barriers to broadband technology access, adoption, availability, delivery, education and usage in low-income communities; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC acknowledges the importance of ensuring access, adoption, availability, delivery, education, and usage of broadband Internet and information technology products and services, particularly by low-income communities; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC encourages endeavors that embrace the principles expressed in this resolution and seeks to provide innovative technological solutions to help low-income earners access, have available, adopt and use broadband technologies across the United States.

*Sponsored by the Committee on Telecommunications
Adopted by the Board of Directors July 23, 2008*