Resolution Honoring Katie Cummings

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications (Telco Staff Subcommittee) has become aware of the impending retirement of one Katie Cummings, telecommunications staff leader and expert from the Commonwealth of Virginia’s State Corporation Commission (VaSCC); and

WHEREAS, The Telco Staff Subcommittee is also aware that Katie has a long and fruitful flare for subtlety, evident in her choice of April Fool’s Day to retire; and

WHEREAS, The Telco Staff Committee is equally aware, having been reminded more than once by Katie Cummings, that Katie’s leadership and expertise has always been first and foremost focused on the interests of the great Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, The Telco Staff Subcommittee is further aware that Katie’s involved career includes, but is by no means limited to, helping regulated telecommunications carriers, usually completely unaware of what Katie is working on and already knows about them, to come to see the light and wisdom of her regulatory ways; and

WHEREAS, The Telco Staff Subcommittee appreciates Katie’s willingness to educate Virginia’s regulated telecommunications carriers in her subtle and quiet manner, especially when it comes to making sure that the 911 system in Virginia, and Arlington County in particular, is fully operational; and

WHEREAS, The Telco Staff Subcommittee witnessed Katie’s gentle and emotive manner when it came to apprising the world of the 911 service operations of Virginia’s regulated telecommunications carriers, especially when it comes to the incumbent local exchange carrier’s back-up generation operations in Arlington County, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, The Telco Staff Subcommittee relies on Katie’s attention to detail, particularly when investigating matters such as the existence of, and proof for, the proliferation of competition in all telephone exchanges in the Commonwealth of Virginia, well in advance of legislation addressing those findings in a later enactment; and

WHEREAS, The equally long-in-the-tooth members of the Telco Staff Subcommittee remember the Truly Hateful Dog award, an award granted exclusively to Staff Subcommittee members who have been particularly aggressive in analyzing and addressing industry and consumer interests in the regulated telecommunications carriers’ world; and

WHEREAS, The Telco Staff Subcommittee members have themselves not been immunized from experiencing Katie’s unassuming and reserved style in the discussion and editing of resolutions, especially on really simple issues like prepaid wireless carriers and universal service; and

WHEREAS, The Telco Staff Subcommittee has been subjected to Katie’s always vociferous, and misguided, deference of the Federal Communications Commission’s decision to require Verizon’s
customers in other States to pay into a regional company-wide Access Recovery Charge (ARC) rate that benefitted the ARC rate for Verizon’s customers in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, The Telco Staff Committee members have also experienced Katie’s quiet style when it came to examining and addressing NARUC’s position on the Missoula Plan; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened at its 2016 Winter Committee Meetings in Washington, D.C., recognizes the impending retirement of Katie Cummings from the Commonwealth of Virginia Corporation Commission and the NARUC Telecommunications Staff Subcommittee; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Telco Staff Subcommittee of the NARUC Telecommunications Committee hereby awards Katie Cummings the Truly Hateful Dog award, better late than never to avoid being bitten in the heel; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Telco Staff Subcommittee of the NARUC Telecommunications Committee recognizes Katie Cummings’ impending retirement with much dismay and more than a little sadness because she will be sorely missed; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Telco Staff Subcommittee of the NARUC Telecommunications Committee wishes Katie Cummings a fun, happy, joyous, and well-earned retirement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Telco Staff Subcommittee of the NARUC Telecommunications Committee requests the NARUC Telecommunications Committee to adopt this resolution recognizing Katie Cummings’ retirement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That everyone involved with, attending meetings with, or having worked with Katie Cummings over the two decades and more of her work at NARUC wishes her a very enjoyable retirement from her years as a dedicated and hard-working expert in telecommunications.

Sponsored by the Committee on Telecommunications
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on February 17, 2016