

***EC-1 Resolution Urging the Administration to Appoint State Commissioners to Open Vacancies at
FERC and other Federal Agencies***

Whereas for more than 130 years, public utility commissions from every state, the District of Columbia, and all U.S. territories, have led the way in developing and implementing novel policies to promote the efficient and affordable deployment of utility services in all sectors;

Whereas more often than not, state commissions have implemented policies that have been the prototype for cutting-edge congressional or federal agency initiatives;

Whereas no one understands better than state commissioners the real-world, often unintended, effects of federal policy at the ground level on consumers, and how such policies complement, interfere, or interact with related state programs or local/regional market conditions/demographics;

Whereas energy is a primary economic driver for the U.S. economy and state commissioners oversee the operations of the country's gas, electric, water, and telecommunications systems at the ground level;

Whereas state commissioners live at the leading edge of energy policy formation;

Whereas past administrations and this one have recognized the advantages of appointing current and former state utility commissioners for service on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and in the U.S. Department of Energy;

Whereas state commissioners are well positioned to help any administration fine tune policy to maximize opportunities in that sector - as well as address interdependencies, synergies, and security concerns that involve the other critical infrastructures subject to their oversight;

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2018 Summer Policy Summit in Scottsdale, Arizona, respectfully request that current and future administrations appoint individuals with service experience as state commissioners to vacancies on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and to related posts in other federal agencies to assure that the administration's policies can benefit from state commissioners' recognized practical experience, as well as seize opportunities for federal and state cooperation, and ensure that federal agency decisions consider the impact of federal decision-making all the way down to consumers in the states.

Sponsored by the NARUC Executive Committee

Approved by the NARUC Board of Directors July 18, 2018.