

Honorary Resolution for Commissioner Emeritus Sherina Maye Edwards of Illinois

Whereas Sherina Maye Edwards was appointed by then-Governor Patrick Joseph Quinn as a Commissioner for the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) in February 2013, serving with honor and distinction until December 6, 2017, when she voluntarily decided to pursue other opportunities;

Whereas Sherina, at the time of her appointment, became the youngest commissioner ever appointed in the state of Illinois;

Whereas during her tenure at the ICC, Commissioner Emeritus Edwards was an active and engaged member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC);

Whereas Commissioner Emeritus Edwards served when she was a state commissioner as the Chair of the Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety as well as Chair of the Subcommittee on Supplier and Workforce Diversity, and as a member of the Committee on Gas, with previous service on the Committee on Water;

Whereas in 2016 Commissioner Emeritus Edwards was appointed as one of the state regulators to Co-Chair the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's (PHMSA) Voluntary Information-Sharing System Working Group, where she provided recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation on information-sharing matters and best practices for the protection of proprietary and security-sensitive information;

Whereas in her role as a regulator, Commissioner Emeritus Edwards was a tireless advocate and nationally recognized champion for diversity and inclusion within the utility and energy space;

Whereas her passion and dedication led her to found the Women's Energy Summit as an annual forum for select women across the nation to discuss pertinent issues in the energy industry, highlight accomplishments, uplift rising stars, and break down barriers;

Whereas in 2015, she co-founded the Chicago chapter of the Women's Energy Network, an organization that attracts, educates, and develops professional women across the energy value chain;

Whereas because of her leadership traits and diverse experience, she was selected for the highly competitive 2017 Eisenhower Fellowship, where she served as an ambassador for the United States in South Africa and Australia to establish relationships with leading international experts in the energy industry;

Whereas Commissioner Emeritus Edwards holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Spelman College, *cum laude*, and a Juris Doctor from Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C., where she was a merit scholar;

Whereas prior to her serving at the ICC, Sherina was an accomplished attorney for Locke Lord LLP where she focused on business and consumer finance litigation;

Whereas Commissioner Emeritus Edwards was noted for her supportive mentorship and warm rapport in helping to show other females and people of color that they too could have successful careers in the energy industry;

Whereas Commissioner Emeritus Edwards was a highly respected and active volunteer, who introduced the topic of energy to children in the Chicago Public Schools attending a STEM based program focused on “Think Energy;”

Whereas Commissioner Emeritus Edwards also continued to play a very significant mentoring role by helping to bring more women and people of color into the field by starting a job shadow day at the ICC;

Whereas Sherina Maye Edwards and her beloved husband reside in Chicago and are the proud parents of an amazing baby daughter, who will be all that she wants to be; *and*

Whereas Sherina Maye Edwards is greatly missed by the Subcommittee on Supplier and Workforce Diversity and the Committee on Gas and her NARUC colleagues who are honored to call her a true friend who embodies what NARUC should be: professional, thoughtful, mentoring, dedicated, inclusive, intelligent, and honorable, as well as an innovative trailblazer; *now therefore be it*

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2018 Summer Policy Summit in Scottsdale, Arizona, extends and expresses its deepest and sincerest appreciation and gratitude to Sherina Maye Edwards for her outstanding years of dedicated public service in advancing the public good and wishes her continued good fortune, happiness, success, and health in all her future endeavors professionally and personally.

*Sponsored by the Subcommittee on Supplier and Workforce Diversity and the Committee on Gas
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on July 18, 2018*