Honorary Resolutions Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors at the NARUC Winter Policy Summit

(2/16/22 8:33 am)

I. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Resolution Honoring Paul Kjellander

(2/12 3:07 pm version from G. White) 

II. CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Resolution Honoring Former CI Chairman Gladys Brown Dutrieuille

(1/31 1:56 p.m. version from D. Alexander)

III. ELECTRICITY COMMITTEE

Resolution Honoring Kristine Raper

(2/4 3:41pm version from A. Rendahl)

Resolution Honoring FERC Commissioner Willie Phillips

(2/3 7:36 pm version from K. Zitelman)

IV. ENERGY RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Tom Stanton Resolution for Mary Kilmarx Award

(2/10 02:36 pm version from K Worthington)

IV. GAS COMMITTEE

Resolution Honoring Brooks McCabe

(2/7 7:35 p.m. version from K Zitelman)

V. TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Resolution Honoring Labros Pilalis

(1/31 12:07 pm version from J. Witmer)
Honorary Resolution for Idaho Commissioner Paul Kjellander

Whereas Idaho Public Utility Commission President Paul Kjellander retired from state public service on December 31, 2021, after 34 years as an Idaho state employee;

Whereas Paul Kjellander first served on the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (IPUC) as President from January 1999 until October 2007;

Whereas Commissioner Kjellander left the IPUC in 2007 when he was appointed to the then-new Idaho Office of Energy Resources and served in that position until 2011;

Whereas Commissioner Kjellander was once again appointed to the IPUC in April 2011, and served as the IPUC President until his recent retirement;

Whereas prior to his initial appointment to the IPUC, Commissioner Kjellander served as a member of the Idaho House of Representatives from 1994 to 1999;

Whereas prior to his legislative service, Commissioner Kjellander was director of Boise State University’s College of Applied Technology Distance Learning, where he earned tenured faculty status and served in various positions including program head of broadcast technology and station manager of BSU Radio Network;

Whereas while serving as a commissioner, Commissioner Kjellander became active in the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), and moved into leadership positions within the association;

Whereas Commissioner Kjellander served on NARUC’s Committee on Telecommunications, including serving as Chair and Vice Chair of the committee;

Whereas Commissioner Kjellander also served on several telecommunications-related boards and task forces, including the “Federal-State Joint Conference on Advanced Telecommunications Services” and the North American Numbering Council (NAN-C), which were among his most treasured activities;

Whereas Commissioner Kjellander lent his time and leadership skills to other NARUC initiatives, including serving as President of the “National Council on Electricity Policy”;

Whereas Commissioner Kjellander served on NARUC’s Board of Directors and its Executive Committee;

Whereas in November 2020, Commissioner Kjellander was elected to serve as President of NARUC;

Whereas during his term as NARUC President, Commissioner Kjellander focused on a novel multi-year “theme” for the association of “Connecting the Dots” between innovative and disruptive technologies and effective regulation;

Whereas Commissioner Kjellander’s year as NARUC President coincided with year two of the Covid-19 pandemic making his Presidency a year “with all of the work and none of the perks;”
Whereas Commissioner Kjellander takes great joy in his family, his wife Radelle and their three children, each of whom followed in their father’s footsteps as college soccer players, causing Paul and Radelle to spend countless hours on the road travelling to and from soccer events;

Whereas Commissioner Kjellander is an accomplished artist with works displayed in the Idaho State Capital building, and appearing on book and magazine covers; and

Whereas Commissioner Kjellander’s easy-going demeanor and self-deprecating humor belie his talents, leadership, and contributions to NARUC and the regulatory community, now therefore be it

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2022 Winter Policy Summit extends its sincere gratitude to Paul Kjellander for his outstanding leadership as President of the Association, and for his continuous support for NARUC; and be it further

Resolved that his friends and former colleagues are pleased to wish Paul, and his family, the very best in all future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Executive Committee
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on February 3, 2022
Honorary Resolution for Chairman Gladys Brown Dutrieuille

Whereas Gladys Brown Dutrieuille has served as a member of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) since 2013; initially as a commissioner, from 2013 to 2015, and as Chairman of the Commission since 2015 – continuing as Chairman following reappointment in 2019;

Whereas Chairman Dutrieuille served at the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) as Chairman of the Committee on Critical Infrastructure; Co-Chair of the Presidential Task Force on Transportation and as a member of the Task Force on Emergency Preparedness, Recovery and Resiliency; in July 2021 she was nominated by NARUC to serve on a new Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission; and in August 2021 she was appointed as an at-large member of NARUC’s Board of Directors;

Whereas Chairman Dutrieuille was elected in July 2021 as First Vice President for the Mid-Atlantic Conference of Regulatory Utilities Commissioners (MACRUC), following a term as the organization’s Second Vice President;

Whereas Chairman Dutrieuille has an extensive career in public service, initially as an assistant counsel for the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs in the Pennsylvania Department of State and as a clerk for the late Honorable Paul A. Simmons, Judge for the U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania. For more than two decades, she was counsel to the Pennsylvania Senate Democratic Caucus, where she worked on many of the major utility issues that have been considered by the General Assembly, including all of the major deregulation bills for telecommunications, electricity and natural gas; Act 201 of 2004, which added Chapter 14 to the Public Utility Code and changed the handling of consumer terminations and reconnections; Act 129 of 2008, which addressed energy efficiency and procurement; and Act 11 of 2012, which expanded use of the distribution system improvement charge;

Whereas Chairman Dutrieuille has shown exceptional dedication to service to the public in both her public and private capacities;

Whereas Chairman Dutrieuille received her bachelor’s degree from the University of Pittsburgh and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law;

Whereas Chairman Dutrieuille is the wife to her husband Steve and step-mother to her daughter Maya; and

Whereas Chairman Dutrieuille’s commitment to public service is a living example for Pennsylvania, NARUC, and the numerous organizations in which she continues to serve; now therefore be it

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2022 Winter Policy Summit, congratulates Chairman Gladys Brown Dutrieuille on her tenure as the Chairman of the NARUC Critical Infrastructure Committee and expresses its sincere thanks and heartfelt congratulations.

Sponsored by the Critical Infrastructure Committee
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on February 2022
Honorary Resolution for Commissioner Kristine Raper

Whereas Kristine Raper served on the Idaho Public Utilities Commission as a Commissioner from 2015 to 2022;

Whereas Commissioner Raper also served for seven years as a deputy attorney general assigned to the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, managing a caseload representing a myriad of regulatory and energy law matters, with a strong emphasis on the federal Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA);

Whereas Commissioner Raper has defended the Idaho Public Utilities Commission’s decisions at the Idaho Supreme Court, District Court, and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC);

Whereas Commissioner Raper testified in 2017 regarding PURPA and its modern-day impacts before the Subcommittee on Energy of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science, Space and Technology;

Whereas during her tenure at the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, Commissioner Raper participated in a number of panel discussions at meetings of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and served as a member of the Committee on Electricity;

Whereas in her role as President of the Western Conference of State Public Service Commissioners in 2019, Commissioner Raper organized the Western Conference and showed her Western colleagues the very best of Boise, Idaho;

Whereas Commissioner Raper served as a member of the Body of State Regulators for the Energy Imbalance Market (EIM), a real-time energy market operated by the California Independent System Operator (ISO);

Whereas Commissioner Raper served as a member of the Governance Review Committee, the body responsible for governance review of the EIM as the California ISO contemplates the viability of a day-ahead market;

Whereas Commissioner Raper served as the Chair of the Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body and State Provincial Steering Committee;

Whereas Commissioner Raper represented the Western region as a member of the Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission convened by FERC;

Whereas Commissioner Raper exemplified all aspects of being a dedicated public servant throughout her career, providing input into high-level regulatory matters;

Whereas Commissioner Raper’s commitment to helping improve the lives of the citizens of Idaho has informed her decision-making throughout her career;

Whereas Commissioner Raper is a trusted and respected expert on matters regarding energy policy and the nexus between federal and state electricity jurisdictions;
Whereas Commissioner Raper is a dedicated wife to her husband Mark and mother to her children Peyton, Marnie and Dave;

Whereas Commissioner Raper earned an undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice from Boise State University, and her juris doctor degree from the University of Idaho College of Law;

Whereas Commissioner Raper will be remembered at the Idaho PUC, NARUC, and the numerous organizations in which she has served for her commitment to public service, as well as her warm smile and amazing sense of humor; now therefore be it

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2022 Winter Policy Summit, congratulates Commissioner Emeritus Kristine Raper on her tenure at the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, thanks her for her leadership and friendship, and expresses its best wishes for her future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on February , 2022
Honorary Resolution for Chairman Willie L. Phillips

Whereas Chairman Willie L. Phillips served on the District of Columbia Public Service Commission (DCPSC) as commissioner from 2014 through 2018 and as chairman from 2018 through 2021;

Whereas Chairman Phillips is continuing his distinguished career in public service as a Commissioner on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, to which he was confirmed by the United States Senate on November 16, 2021;

Whereas Chairman Phillips was an active member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and served as Chairman of the Select Committee on Regulatory and Industry Diversity; and served also as a member of the Board of Directors, the Committee on Electricity, and Subcommittee on Education and Research;

Whereas Chairman Phillips was elected and served as President of the Mid-Atlantic Conference of Regulatory Utility Commissioners;

Whereas Chairman Phillips served as a member on the Board of Directors for the Organization of PJM States and Advisory Council for the Electric Power Research Institute;

Whereas Chairman Phillips developed and hosted the first Clean Energy Summit for the DCPSC;

Whereas Chairman Phillips has gained superior skills in cybersecurity and hosted the Cybersecurity Conference for the DCPSC;

Whereas Chairman Phillips chartered the Advisory Council for Supplier and Workforce Diversity to create opportunities for minorities in business and careers;

Whereas Chairman Phillips previously served as Assistant General Counsel for the North American Electric Reliability Corporation, and previously as an attorney advising clients on energy regulatory compliance and policy matters;

Whereas Chairman Phillips received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Montevallo and his Juris Doctor from the Howard University School of Law; and

Whereas Chairman Phillips’s commitment to public service will be remembered at the DCPSC, NARUC, and the numerous organizations in which he has served; now therefore be it

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2022 Winter Policy Summit conducted in Washington, DC and virtually, congratulates Commissioner Emeritus Willie Phillips on his tenure at the District of Columbia Public Service Commission and expresses its best wishes for his future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on February 18, 2022
Tom Stanton Resolution for Mary Kilmarx Award

Whereas Tom Stanton is Principal Researcher, Energy and Environment, at the National Regulatory Research Institute (NRRI), a critical arm of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), where he has served since fall 2010, after a 32-year career in Michigan state government;

Whereas Tom specializes in policy research for renewable energy, energy efficiency, smart grid, and global climate change;

Whereas Tom is a lifelong resident of Michigan, where he worked in state government in the fields of public utility regulation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy – including 10 years at the State Energy Office and over 22 years at the Michigan Public Service Commission (PSC). For several of those years, he worked on administration of Michigan’s solar and renewable energy tax credits program and later served as manager of the renewable energy section of the Michigan PSC;

Whereas Tom earned a B.A. in Communications and an M.A. in Journalism, both from Michigan State University, as well as an M.S. in Public Administration from Western Michigan University;

Whereas Tom has been an energetic, engaging resource and a constant, unwavering support system for NARUC and especially for its Committees and Staff Subcommittees on Energy Resources and the Environment, Electricity, and Rate Design, where he is known for his creative approach to finding unique and professional relevant off-site tours and restaurant options during the three meetings hosted by NARUC each year;

Whereas Tom has been a real visionary in the areas of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and distributed energy resources, including net metering and has been appointed to the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Committee on The Role of Net Metering in the Evolving Electricity System;

Whereas Tom never turned down requests from fellow researchers for his help, providing information, reviewing draft reports, and suggesting edits you didn't even know you wanted, and he held his own research to the same standards by asking external experts for their recommendations to make his research stronger;

Whereas Tom has never met an environmental topic that he was afraid to research and report on if he thought it would benefit Commissioners and Staff. He is an encyclopedia of who’s who of which states are implementing what programs and where new legislation is being passed;

Whereas, whether policymakers were considering an interconnection planning model or a report about pollution reductions from energy efficiency, Tom was always relentless about advocating for strong science and analysis to drive policy, and not the other way around;

Whereas Tom’s quick wit and sense of humor enhance his ability to research regulatory topics and identify and secure the participation of outstanding speakers for NARUC’s many subject-matter panels. He never shies away from helping to figure out how to pull off successful panels meeting after meeting;
Whereas, of late, Tom is also becoming known for his generous contributions to NARUC attendees’ understanding and enjoyment of the pleasures of chocolate, especially that having local or regional features associated with the various NARUC meeting venues around the country;

Whereas Tom is a tennis aficionado and pro tennis’ loss is the regulatory world’s gain;

Whereas Tom is an avid home improvement expert, his historic house being in a constant state of well thought out improvements;

Whereas Tom has recently urged his friends to reserve July 9 for his 70th Birthday Party at the Lansing Lugnuts Home Baseball Game (7 p.m. game time), with fireworks after. Tom says if July 9 does not work for you, but you want to come visit any other time in 2022, just say when and he will happily celebrate with you whenever you say! As a true Michigander, Tom notes that flights to his beloved state go to Detroit (DTW), Lansing (LAN), or Grand Rapids (GRR). He offers to help with Michigan fun travel itineraries, too, for lots of fun stops in any direction from Lansing, including the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, which includes the Thomas Edison workshop from Menlo Park, New Jersey; and

Whereas Tom was a personal friend of Mary Kilmarx during her NARUC years and is a sterling example of the kinds of public service that the Award in her honor is intended to champion; now therefore be it

Resolved that the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners, convened at its Winter Policy Summit in Washington, DC, extends gratitude to Tom Stanton for his leadership and wisdom at NRRI, and for his efforts to continually champion strong environmental stewardship, renewable energy development, innovation in rate design and advancing the integration of distributed energy resources into the electric grid, and consideration of the need for equity and fairness for low- and middle-income ratepayers in accessing clean and efficient energy services. NARUC expresses its best wishes for his continued service to its committees and subcommittees and in his future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on February , 2022
Honorary Resolution for Commissioner Brooks F. McCabe, Jr.

Whereas Commissioner Brooks F. McCabe served on the Public Service Commission of West Virginia as Commissioner from 2014 through 2021;

Whereas Commissioner McCabe was an active member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) as a member of the Committee on Gas and the Subcommittee on Clean Coal and Carbon Management;

Whereas Commissioner McCabe served as President of the Mid-Atlantic Conference of Regulatory Utilities Commissioners from 2019 – 2020;

Whereas Commissioner McCabe represented West Virginia and NARUC in Beijing to the National Energy Administration for the People’s Republic of China and United States Commissioner Exchange Program where he made a presentation about Chinese investments and cooperative efforts between West Virginia and China;

Whereas Commissioner McCabe served four consecutive terms for a total of 16 years as a West Virginia State Senator representing Kanawha County from 1998 through 2014, chairing the Senate Economic Development Committee and serving on the Finance, Pensions, Banking and Insurance, Natural Resources, Government Organization, and Transportation and Infrastructure Committees;

Whereas Commissioner McCabe previously served as assistant to the director for planning and development in the West Virginia Governor’s Office of Federal/State Relations, coordinator of the Comprehensive Housing Program, director of the Disaster Recovery Office, and captain in the United States Air Force Reserves;

Whereas Commissioner McCabe has been active in commercial and investment real estate, land, and mineral interests in West Virginia;

Whereas Commissioner McCabe has received numerous awards in recognition of his public service to West Virginia and his work in real estate, including the YMCA Spirit of the Valley Award, the West Virginia Land Trust’s Special Places Individual Award, United Way Volunteer of the Year Award, and named a Toll Fellow with the Council of State Governments;

Whereas Commissioner McCabe received his bachelor’s degree and Master of Education degree from the University of Vermont and his Doctor of Education degree with a concentration in planning and community development from West Virginia University; and

Whereas Commissioner McCabe’s commitment to public service will be remembered at the Public Service Commission of West Virginia, the West Virginia State Senate, NARUC, MACRUC and the numerous organizations in which he has served; now therefore be it

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2022 Winter Policy Summit in Washington, DC, congratulates Commissioner Emeritus Brooks F. McCabe, Jr. on his tenure at the Public Service Commission of West Virginia and expresses its best wishes for his future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on Gas
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on February 2022.
Honorary Resolution for Labros E. Pilalis (PA)

Whereas Labros Evaggelos Pilalis commands many designations—regulatory law economist, lawyer, military weapons expert, knowledgeable geopolitical observer, hand-picked tutor and mentor to foreign military officers studying in the United States at the invitation of the U.S. Army, scholar and published author in defense, economics, and public utility regulation journals, dedicated advisor to the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commission’s (NARUC) Committee on Telecommunications and the Federal-State Joint Board for Universal Service, invaluable and trusted telecommunications advisor to Pennsylvania Public Utility Commissioners, faith-filled counsel to his Church and its community, and loyal friend;

Whereas throughout his adult life Labros has benefitted from the assistance and insight provided by his wife, Dr. Jessica R. Suchy-Pilalis, Professor, Music Theory, Harp at the Crane School of Music, SUNY/Potsdam, particularly when inspecting military museums and equipment, even during a visit to Israel for a musical performance;

Whereas having earned his Bachelor of Arts in Physics from the University of Nebraska and his Master of Public Affairs and Doctor of Jurisprudence from Indiana University, Labros began his career in 1982 in the Economics and Finance Division of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC), led by the late Wayne Lash, where he quickly rose from the position of Utility Analyst to the IURC’s Assistant Chief Economist who, in addition to his regular duties, prepared reports to the Indiana General Assembly on telecommunications regulation and oversaw an investigation of potential excess earnings by a major local exchange carrier;

Whereas after IURC senior telecommunications policy analyst Karl Henry’s initial encounter with Labros in 1988 as his first supervisor at the IURC, he benefitted immeasurably from Labros’s example through his skills in legal and public policy analysis based partly on their common interests in law, history, and public policy, which resulted in a friendship and a professional relationship that continues today;

Whereas Labros became a member of the bar of the Indiana Supreme Court on October 20, 1989, and remains so;

Whereas, in November, 1993, Labros was chosen by Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Chairman David Rolka to bring his knowledge, work ethic, and experience to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) as a technical staff supervisor in the PUC’s Office of Special Assistants headed by Cheryl Walker Davis;

Whereas with high intelligence and integrity, Labros continued his established practice of focusing on facts, finance, and policy at the PUC as he had done at the IURC and expanded that practice to instruct and educate his staff on how to engage in similar practices;

Whereas Joe Witmer and his telecommunications colleagues at the PUC first came to know, and sometimes dread but were always prepared for, long and detailed meetings with Labros on all things telecommunications and broadband, starting with Extended Area Service (EAS), Staff Responses on Telecommunications Regulation to the Commissioners, Section 706 petitions, and ending with Net Neutrality, Separations, Universal Service, and the Transformation Order;

Whereas in April 1998, Labros joined former PUC Commissioner and Attorney James H. Cawley in the practice of telecommunications law and public utility and telecommunications consulting.
with the law firm’s subsidiary, the Rhoads & Sinon Group LLC., including 2004 cost of capital testimony on behalf of the Staff of the South Carolina PSC in a case involving the application of South Carolina Electric & Gas for adjustments to its electric schedules and tariffs;

Whereas in June 2005, when Commissioner (later Chairman) Cawley rejoined the PUC, he recruited Labros to be his chief telecommunications advisor to the (mock) chagrin and dread (but actual delight) of his former PUC staff colleagues—feelings not shared, however, by the less forthright telecommunications entities who knew well of Labros’ oft-demonstrated proclivity to always seek the public interest;

Whereas during his tenure with Chairman Cawley, Labros distinguished himself by reviewing all PUC staff recommendations for FCC filings, fearlessly editing anything and everything that needed correction or elaboration, and relished his appointment to the staff of the Federal-State Joint Board for Universal Service, where he proceeded to edit any amorphous written drafts to make them more precise and comprehensive;

Whereas Labros marshalled the forces in opposition to the FCC’s 2011 Transformation Order based on its bald and unprecedented assertion of federal authority over intrastate telecommunications, although his efforts (and those of other state utility commissions and many regulated entities) came to naught when the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit completely upheld the FCC’s decision by reliance on prudential sidesteps of legal objections and a torrent of unjustified judicial deference to the agency’s discretion;

Whereas upon the departure from the PUC of Chairman Cawley in 2015, Labros was invited by Commissioner Andrew Place to be his telecommunications expert, to the welcoming surprise, if not sometimes exasperation, of Lois Burns, Commissioner Place’s Chief of Staff;

Whereas upon the departure of Commissioner Place, Labros carried his public interest focus and reputation to the public interest-centered RolkaLoube, LLC, Harrisburg, PA, including administration and oversight of the federal Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) Fund;

Whereas since 2002, Labros has provided countless volunteer hours of research and writing assistance to the Community Sponsors Program, U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, PA, shepherding Greek and Middle Eastern military officers through the vigorous curriculum at the college;

Whereas Labros has dedicated numerous hours of service to his church, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Camp Hill, PA, as a volunteer teacher and as a Parish Council Member and Secretary, while helping the Greek community by answering inquiries and providing translation services to resolve matters here and in Greece; and

Whereas anyone who has ever worked with Labros has no doubt that he continues his focus on the public interest, facts, details, and exhaustive footnotes educating current and future regulators about the comprehensive history of anything he has worked on (just in case they need it); now therefore be it

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2022 Winter Policy Summit in Washington, DC, recognizes, commends, and thanks Labros Pilalis for his fearless, exhaustive, and principled efforts to protect
the public interest in his long career, particularly his spirited defense of state interests in all things telecommunications, and extends its respect and best wishes to him and his wife Jessica.

*Sponsored by the Committee on Telecommunications
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on February 2022*