Resolution Honoring Edward S. Finley, Jr. of North Carolina

Whereas Governor Michael Easley, a Democrat, appointed Ed Finley to the North Carolina Utilities Commission ("Commission") as of January 23, 2007, to fill a term that expired on June 30, 2011, and thereafter appointed him to serve as the Chairman of the Commission as of April 10, 2007;

Whereas Governor Beverly Perdue, a Democrat, reappointed Ed Finley to the Commission as of July 1, 2011, for an eight-year term expiring June 30, 2019, and thereafter reappointed him to serve as the Chairman of the Commission as of July 1, 2009, for a term that expired on June 30, 2013;

Whereas Governor Patrick McCrory, a Republican, reappointed Ed Finley to serve as the Chairman of the Commission as of July 1, 2013, for a term that expired on June 30, 2017;

Whereas Governor Roy Cooper, a Democrat, reappointed Ed Finley to serve as the Chairman of the Commission as of July 1, 2017;

Whereas Ed Finley fully engaged with the issues in each regulated industry and thoughtfully evaluated the issues before the Commission including rate cases, mergers, certificates of public convenience and necessity, transmission lines, and rulemaking dockets;

Whereas Ed Finley is seen by all as nonpartisan and scrupulously fair, with an incisive mind, even temperament, and gracious disposition;

Whereas Ed Finley is admired for his integrity, depth of knowledge, engagement, dry wit, and effective leadership on regulatory issues;

Whereas Ed Finley served on NARUC’s Electricity Committee as Chair from June 2016 until November 2017. He also served as NARUC’s Second Vice President beginning November 14, 2017, and First Vice President beginning November 13, 2018, as well as serving on the Board of Directors beginning in 2017;

Whereas Ed Finley was actively involved in the Organization of PJM States, Inc. ("OPSII"), and was a member of the OPSI Executive Committee. He served as President of OPSI in 2013 and Vice President in 2012;

Whereas Ed Finley was a member of the Eastern Interconnection States Planning Collaborative ("EISPC"). He also served on the advisory council to the Board of Directors of the Electric Power Research Institute ("EPRI") as well as the Executive Committee of the National Council on Electricity Policy ("NCEP"). Additionally, Ed Finley participated in the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners ("SEARUC");

Whereas Ed Finley earned his Juris Doctor degree with honors from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law and thereafter entered private practice with Joyner & Williams from 1974 to 1980, practicing in the area of public utility regulation. He thereafter was a partner with the law firm of Hunton & Williams from 1980 to 2007 prior to joining the North Carolina Utilities Commission;

Whereas Ed Finley has been active in his church, the First Presbyterian Church, serving as an Elder, Chairman of the Board of Deacons, and as the Chair of the Senior Pastor Nominating Committee. He also has been active in his community, serving on the Board of Trustees for many organizations including, but
not limited to, Peace College, Lineberger Cancer Research Center, and the Glenaire Continuing Care Retirement Community;

Whereas notwithstanding his many accomplishments, he embodies the ‘valley of humility’ that he has likened North Carolina to when in the company of regulators and friends from neighboring States;

Whereas Ed Finley’s depth of knowledge, integrity, expertise and leadership will be difficult to replace and will be missed but not forgotten by his colleagues in North Carolina and NARUC; now, therefore be it

Resolved that the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2019 Summer Policy Summit in Indianapolis, IN, extends to Ed Finley of North Carolina its sincere thanks and appreciation for his dedicated and distinguished service to NARUC and the State of North Carolina and wishes him well in his continued achievements.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors July 24, 2019