

Resolution Honoring Commissioner Sadzi M. Oliva of Illinois

Whereas Sadzi M. Oliva was appointed Commissioner to the Illinois Commerce Commission by Governor Bruce Rauner on January 17, 2017, becoming the first Latina to serve as a commissioner in the agency's nearly 150-year history;

Whereas in October of 2018 Commissioner Oliva participated in a partnership exchange with the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission on stakeholder engagement and public communications in Jakarta, Indonesia;

Whereas Commissioner Oliva contributed numerous published articles, including one in Utility Dive in October 2018 titled "Alternative retail electric suppliers: A surge in consumer protection standards in Illinois;"

Whereas in January 2019, Commissioner Oliva was appointed as and served as Chair of the Subcommittee on Supplier and Workforce Diversity;

Whereas Commissioner Oliva also previously served on NARUC's Committee on Critical Infrastructure and Committee on Water;

Whereas at the 2019 NARUC Summer Meeting, Commissioner Oliva sponsored a resolution that passed unanimously entitled "Encouraging the Inclusion of Minority-Serving Institutions in the Development of Long-Term Strategic Partnerships to Address Pending Retirements of Utility;"

Whereas in November 2020, Commissioner Oliva became Chair of the newly created Select Committee on Regulatory and Industry Diversity, where she championed a resolution that encouraged utilities to recruit from minority serving institutions, engage diverse professional services firms, and review their business processes to reduce barriers to entry for diverse small business vendors;

Whereas Commissioner Oliva served tirelessly on several key board positions and councils, including on the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Advisory Council, the Financial Research Institute (FRI) Advisory Board; the National Utilities Diversity Council (NUDC) Board of Directors;

Whereas Commissioner Oliva served as Treasurer of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference (MARC) and then Vice President of MARC;

Whereas Commissioner Oliva served as the Illinois representative on the Organization of Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) States (OMS) Board of Directors from 2018 through 2020;

Whereas Commissioner Oliva's further impact as a leader in the energy industry includes international work participating in a peer review with other Central American regulators in June of 2018 on renewable energy integration and smart grids in Panama sponsored by the Power Sector Program, Bureau of Energy Resources, U.S. Department of State, and organized by NARUC;

Whereas Commissioner Oliva has a storied history of public service, previously serving as General Counsel, Ethics Officer, Administrative Law Judge, and Chief of Medical Prosecutions for the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR), as Chief Administrative Law Judge with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, and as Assistant Attorney General at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, Special Prosecutions Bureau;

Whereas further, Commissioner Oliva previously served as Chair of the Illinois Governor's Office of Administrative Hearing's Review Committee that organized and presented the Chicago Bar Association's Annual Administrative Law Conference in continuing legal education seminars related to administrative hearings;

Whereas Commissioner Oliva previously served as Co-Chair of the Rules Subcommittee for the Department of Central Management Systems Bureau of Administrative Hearings pilot program and helped draft the model rules of practice in administrative hearings;

Whereas Commissioner Oliva continuously demonstrates her commitment to civic engagement as an active member of the Cuban American Chamber of Commerce in Illinois and has volunteered for the Chicago Coalition for Law-Related Education, Lawyers in the Classroom, and as a mentor for the International Confederation of Energy Regulators mentoring program;

Whereas Commissioner Oliva is a first generation Cuban American and was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. She earned her Juris Doctorate from Loyola University School of Law, her Bachelor of Arts from DePaul University, and is a graduate of the Academy of the Sacred Heart;

Whereas Commissioner Oliva will always be remembered not only for her trailblazing work in the energy and utility regulatory industry but also for her astounding talent at karaoke; *now, therefore be it*

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2021 Annual Meeting and Education Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, sends their best wishes for her future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on November 9, 2021.