

**Resolution Relating to the
Telecommunications Service Priority System**

WHEREAS, In 1988 the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) ordered the replacement of its Restoration Priority System with the Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System in General Docket No. 87-505; and

WHEREAS, Qualified users may subscribe to the TSP System, allowing designated circuits to be placed "at the top of the list" for repairs or provisioning in the event of a national security emergency; and

WHEREAS, The FCC established the TSP System Oversight Committee to identify and review any problems developing in the system and recommend actions to correct them or prevent recurrence, and the committee has identified critical issues that directly affect state utility regulation; and

WHEREAS, Carriers were ordered to file tariffs in compliance with the TSP plan, and the FCC's Order allows carriers to charge for restoral activities; and

WHEREAS, State and local public officials have expressed concerns about the prohibitive cost of TSP subscription and the potential for preemption of restoral activities for critical emergency services, and significant differences in tariffs and charges among various carriers and states; and

WHEREAS, The Chairman of the TSP Oversight Committee has recently informed the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) of concerns surrounding the TSP System, and has solicited the NARUC's insight on how these concerns might be resolved; and

WHEREAS, Many state regulatory agencies approved the intrastate TSP tariffs of telephone carriers at a time when the details of the TSP System were not clear, and state and local concerns had not been expressed; and

WHEREAS, A number of factors including the cost of TSP System subscription and uncertainty about the benefits of subscribership have kept the number of TSP subscribers far short of projections; and

WHEREAS, All priorities established under the Restoration Priority System will expire on March 10, 1993, at the end of the thirty month transition period; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened at its Winter Meeting in Washington, D.C., alerts its members that concerns have been raised about TSP Service issues, and that its members may wish to reevaluate the tariffed provisions and charges for the service; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the NARUC commit necessary membership and staff resources to work with the TSP Oversight Committee to resolve continuing concerns on these critical issues identified by that committee.

Sponsored by the Committee on Communications
Adopted March 4, 1993
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