

Honorary Resolution for Commissioner Robert Kenney (MO)

WHEREAS, Robert S. Kenney was appointed to the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) on July 29, 2009, by Governor Jay Nixon and was named Chairman of the PSC by Governor Nixon on March 1, 2013; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Kenney has been an active member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), and has served with distinction as Chair of the NARUC Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment (ERE), as well as a member of the NARUC Board of Directors, the Committee on Consumer Affairs, the Subcommittee on Utility Market Place Access, and the Committee on International Relations; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Kenney has been a national figure and leading advocate for the continued strong role of State commissions in national utility and energy policies, for clean energy and environmental stewardship, for effective regulation, and for the quality of service for customers of the utilities; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Kenney has served his State and his region with tremendous professionalism, including service to the Mid-America Regulatory Conference and to the Organization of MISO States, for which he served as president from 2011 to 2013; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Kenney serves on the boards and advisory boards of numerous organizations including: the Eastern Interconnection States' Planning Council; Institute for Electric Efficiency; National Regulatory Research Institute; Electric Power Research Institute; Financial Research Institute at the University of Missouri, Columbia; Critical Consumer Issues Forum; and the Center for Public Utilities at New Mexico State University; *and*

WHEREAS, As the chair of the ERE Committee, Chairman Kenney demonstrated the most profound qualities of leadership: vision; openness; thoughtfulness; common sense; persistence in the pursuit of what was right; commitment to fair process; patience and good humor in the face of posturing; flexibility when confronted with rigidity; and a genuine kindness of spirit that made his friendship prized and appreciated by those lucky enough to have it; *and*

WHEREAS, As chair of ERE, he worked tirelessly to build relationships with other committees to address the cross-cutting issues of ERE, and leaves a legacy of cooperation behind; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Kenney was a genuine, engaging leader and an avid supporter of NARUC's international programs, in which he dedicated himself and his Commission resources in particular to ensure the regulatory progress of the Moldovan energy sector and the successful launch of the Ethiopia Bilateral Energy Regulatory Partnership. His contributions have led to great relationships and regulatory improvements in both energy sectors; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Kenney has set an example of volunteer leadership in our community through his personal investment of time and energy as he guided and anchored the "Anybody Can Serve" campaign that applies the spirit of public service in direct ways to those most

vulnerable in society; *and*

WHEREAS, The aforementioned patience and good humor that Chairman Kenney is well known for can best be demonstrated by the restrained expression he makes when he is offered a day-old cup of coffee and then called “Bob” or “Bobby” (try it sometime!); *and*

WHEREAS, His passion for cost of service rate regulation is matched only by his love of the dance floor (though opinions vary on his ability to execute the latter effectively); *and*

WHEREAS, There is a rumor that U.S. Senator Paul Simon left Robert his collection of bow ties; *and*

WHEREAS, Upon leaving the Commission he is rumored to be entering treatment at an undisclosed location for his addiction to arguing nuanced legal points; *and*

WHEREAS, The legal staff of the Missouri Commission are concerned about where they will go for legal advice when Chairman Kenney leaves and are in the process of hiring 10 new attorneys to replace him; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Kenney’s idea of casual Fridays was to not wear a tie (although he did have one in his pocket just in case. A bow tie. From Brooks Brothers.); *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Kenney is legendary for using \$3 words and he is not opposed to traveling on critical government business...often...; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Kenney’s idea of a tourist attraction is Brooks Brothers. He has a personal goal of visiting every store in existence, which is the real reason for his travel schedule; *and*

WHEREAS, If Missouri ever gets rid of its seams they should dedicate the day to him (Okay, that is not funny, but he did try as hard as anyone to fix this problem); *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Kenney is rumored to carry a shotgun in case an opportunity arises for a "wedding" between MISO and SPP; *and*

WHEREAS, His new legal treatise "How to Look Good While Arguing your Case," will appear on bookshelves on August 8th, with proceeds to benefit a scholarship for his brother Bill Kenney to attend law school; *and*

WHEREAS, He is the epitome of balance between the practical, ethical, social, and environmental responsibilities of regulators; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Kenney has been valued throughout NARUC as a friend, colleague, and trusted advisor; *and*

WHEREAS, His knowledge, experience, collegiality, and wisdom will be greatly missed; *now*,

therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2015 Summer Meetings in New York, New York, extends to the Honorable Robert S. Kenney its utmost gratitude and appreciation for his years of service to NARUC, the State of Missouri, and the Planet Earth; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That the NARUC Board of Directors and the NARUC Committees on ERE and International Relations wish Robert S. Kenney, his wife, Michelle, and their children Robert Jr. and Mackenzie success and happiness in their future together.

*Sponsored by the Committee on Energy Resources & the Environment,
the Committee on International Relations
and the Committee on Electricity
Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors July 15, 2015*