

Resolution Honoring Travis Kavulla

Whereas Travis Kavulla served on the Montana Public Service Commission for eight years as a commissioner, chairman (2011-2012) and vice-chairman (2015-2018);

Whereas Travis Kavulla is a fourth-generation Montanan and the youngest person to be elected to the Montana Public Service Commission in state history;

Whereas Travis Kavulla served as President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (“NARUC”) from 2015-2016;

Whereas while President of NARUC, Travis Kavulla was instrumental in the creation of the Staff Subcommittee on Rate Design to provide a forum for staff to discuss rate design issues and to share lessons learned with other staff from around the United States;

Whereas while President of NARUC, Travis Kavulla directed the preparation of the Distributed Energy Resources Rate Design and Compensation Manual which remains an indispensable source of information and guidance for regulators around the country;

Whereas Travis Kavulla represented NARUC on the Advisory Council of the Electric Power Research Institute;

Whereas Travis Kavulla earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Harvard University;

Whereas Travis Kavulla earned a master’s degree in history from the University of Cambridge, England, where he was a Gates Scholar;

Whereas Travis Kavulla was an associate editor of the National Review and a freelance journalist prior to his time as a regulator;

Whereas Travis Kavulla took a leading role in regional and national initiatives, particularly with regard to the development of a regional wholesale energy market in the western United States;

Whereas Travis Kavulla led efforts to reduce or remove barriers to entry in the public transportation sector in Montana;

Whereas Travis Kavulla helped simplify or repeal legacy rate regulations of the telecommunications sector in Montana;

Whereas Travis Kavulla spearheaded the implementation of performance-based regulation for electric utilities’ procurement of energy in Montana;

Whereas Travis Kavulla directed the preparation of the Distributed Energy Resources Compensation Manual while president of NARUC;

Whereas Travis Kavulla acted as co-chairman of the Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation and led west-wide discussions on energy policy, wholesale electricity markets, and the reliability of the grid;

Whereas Travis Kavulla served as co-chairman of the Northern Tier Transmission Group Steering Committee;

Whereas Travis Kavulla served as a member of the Board of Directors and Member Advisory Committee of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council;

Whereas Travis Kavulla was appointed by the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) to serve as the chairman of the North American Numbering Council;

Whereas Travis Kavulla served as an active member of the FCC’s Universal Service Joint Board;

Whereas Travis Kavulla serves as a member on the governing body of the Western Energy Imbalance Market;

Whereas Travis Kavulla’s passion for knowledge and ability to digest and comprehend complex, difficult issues in a brief amount of time is incredible;

Whereas Travis Kavulla is highly respected and a thought leader in the realm of utility regulation;

Whereas Travis Kavulla has been a strong advocate for performance-based regulation to ensure utilities that have been granted monopoly privileges are faced with the same incentives that exist in a competitive environment;

Whereas his contributions and dedication to public service were invaluable;

Whereas Travis Kavulla is an avid reader with a quick wit and uncanny ability to summon a literary reference appropriate for nearly any situation;

Whereas Travis Kavulla is an ardent hiker that enjoys exercise and spending time outdoors, ideally followed by a locally crafted brew to quench his thirst;

Whereas Travis Kavulla is a world traveler that has ventured across the globe seeking culture and experience, of both the well-known and obscure variant, including risking life and limb to introduce fellow travelers to the delicacies of kiti moto and mbuzi choma;

Whereas Travis Kavulla has a deep appreciation and love for the state of Montana;

Whereas Travis Kavulla is the director of energy and environmental policy at the R Street Institute;

Whereas Travis Kavulla is admired and respected by colleagues and staffers, both past and present;

Whereas Travis Kavulla is a faith-oriented person that resides in Washington, D.C. with his wife, Laura;

Whereas Travis Kavulla will be greatly missed; *now therefore be it*

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (“NARUC”), convened at its 2019 Winter Policy Summit in Washington, D.C., extends its deepest thanks, sincere appreciation, and gratitude to Travis Kavulla for his many years of public service to the State of Montana and to NARUC.

Sponsored by the Committee on Telecommunications

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on February 13, 2019