# HONORARY RESOLUTIONS

PASSED BY THE

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

AT THE

### **2018 WINTER POLICY SUMMIT**

OF THE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGULATORY UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

**FEBRUARY 14, 2018** 

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#### Resolution Honoring Commissioner Nikiya (Nikki) Hall

Whereas Nikiya (Nikki) Hall, a native of Columbia, South Carolina, graduated from Heathwood Hall Episcopal School;

Whereas Nikki earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree at Spelman College and her Juris Doctor at Georgetown University Law Center;

Whereas Nikki began her career clerking for the Honorable Casey Manning, a well-respected and well-known circuit court judge in the Fifth Judicial Circuit of South Carolina, who is the broadcast voice for University of South Carolina Gamecocks basketball;

Whereas Nikki served as a prosecutor in the Fifth Judicial Circuit prosecuting non-violent felonies and Managing, Assistant Solicitor for Richland County, and Magistrate Judge for Richland County;

*Whereas* Nikki was elected to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina in June 2010 and served as its Chairperson from July 2014 through June 2016;

Whereas Nikki was a member of the Brookland Baptist Church charitable foundation;

Whereas Nikki was a member of the Senior Resources Board which offers Meals on Wheels and other services to seniors in the Midlands area of South Carolina:

Whereas Nikki is a Liberty Fellow under the Aspen Institute where she cosponsored a project focused on encouraging low income students to apply for admission to Ivy League schools;

Whereas Nikki is an avid fitness enthusiast and traveler who has visited such exotic places as Dubai and Turkey;

Whereas Nikki served as Chair of the Subcommittee on Utility Marketplace Access (now the Subcommittee on Supplier and Workforce Diversity), and as a member of the Electricity Committee and the Washington Action Committee;

Whereas Nikki is a tireless advocate for women and minorities in education, the utility industry, and all other industries; now therefore be it

*Resolved* that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2018 Winter Policy Summit in Washington, D.C., extends its congratulations and thanks to Commissioner Nikiya (Nikki) Hall for her service to the national regulatory community.

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Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on February 14, 2018

#### Resolution Honoring Patricia Poli of Michigan

Whereas Patricia (Pat) Poli completed her five-year tenure as Chair of the NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Electric Reliability in 2017;

Whereas Pat showed superior leadership and exceptional organizational skills in her role as subcommittee chair, working tirelessly to populate various committees of the North American Electric Reliability Cooperation with Commissioners and staff, including serving several terms on the Operating Committee herself;

Whereas Pat personified the electric grid's redundancy by bringing at least one, and sometimes two, backup copies of speaker slide decks to NARUC conferences;

Whereas Pat provided multiple educational opportunities for her fellow regulators to enrich their understanding of electric reliability;

Whereas Pat has been a trailblazer and an inspiration to her colleagues in her 30-plus years in the field of energy policy;

Whereas Pat began her pursuit of academic excellence by earning a Bachelor's degree in Geological Engineering from Michigan Technological University;

Whereas Pat found her regulatory calling by joining the Michigan Public Service Commission in 1989;

Whereas Pat began her career as a Gas Safety Engineer;

Whereas Pat's evolution at the Michigan Public Service Commission then took her from gas safety to energy efficiency to renewables;

Whereas then Michigan Commissioner Greg White elevated her to be his confidential advisor;

Whereas Commissioner White often stated that hiring Pat was not only the first decision he made as a Commissioner, but was also the very best decision he ever made as a Commissioner;

Whereas Pat then served as confidential advisor for Michigan Commissioner Rachael Eubanks;

*Whereas* Pat became the manager of the Energy Waste Reduction Section at the Michigan Public Service Commission in 2017;

Whereas Pat serves a mentor to her fellow staff, challenging them to maximize their skills and talents to best serve the public interest;

Whereas Pat is active in her local community by volunteering for Meals on Wheels;

Whereas Pat is a kind and thoughtful spirit who enriches her workplace and makes the Michigan Public Service Commission a family;

Whereas Pat is the epitome of a dedicated public servant and is a beacon of professionalism, dedication, and hearty work ethic;

Whereas Pat is a wife and a proud mother of two;

Whereas Pat is an avid bicyclist and backpacker;

Whereas Pat is a healthy-eating and -living evangelist; and

Whereas Pat, nevertheless, raids the office communal candy dishes daily for chocolate, often under the guise that the chocolate is for someone else; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved* that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2018 Winter Policy Summit in Washington, D.C., extends its congratulations and thanks to Patricia Poli for her service to the national regulatory community, and that the entire NARUC community wishes Pat the very best in all her future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on February 14, 2018

#### Resolution Honoring Stan "The Man" Wise

Whereas on October 2, 2017, Georgia voters received notice of the end of an era: the longest serving Republican State-wide elected official in Georgia, Public Service Commission Chairman Stan Wise announced that he would not seek re-election to the seat he has held for 23 years;

Whereas Stan was elected to the Public Service Commission in 1994, just barely squeaking by the incumbent by less than 1% of the vote, but then handily winning three more consecutive terms in 2000, in 2006, and in 2012;

Whereas this repeated electoral success is understandable to anyone that has spent any time with Stan as inexplicably the man is always in a good mood, he is always smiling, he invariably starts any public statement with self-deprecating humor, and, as his friends at NARUC and in the press know well – he does know how to spin a yarn;

Whereas Commissioner Wise prepared for his stint in public service by snagging a B.S. in Business Management from the Charleston Southern University, and serving in the U.S. Air Force Reserve;

Whereas he built up a county-wide reputation as the owner of an insurance business in Cobb County, which paved the way for his election in 1990 to his first public office as a Cobb County Commissioner, serving the county also as a member of the Cobb County Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals;

Whereas at 6 foot 5, Commissioner Wise was a standout from the beginning at NARUC – hard to miss in any room – but even if you couldn't see him – (sadly) you could <u>always</u> hear him, and at NARUC he was heard a lot – actively engaged in the association from the first day, he has served on both the NARUC International Committee and as a Chair and a long-time member of the NARUC Gas Committee, rising to the top of NARUC to serve an unusual two terms in 2003 and 2004 as NARUC President;

Whereas in his years of service, Stan has found time to serve as President of the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and on the U.S. Department of Energy State Energy Advisory Board, the Board of the ten-county Atlanta Regional Commission, the Advisory Council for the New Mexico State University Center for Public Utilities, the Board of Trustees for the Feed the Hungry Foundation, the Action Ministries Board of Directors, the Cobb County Public Schools Educational Foundation, Inc., the Board of Directors of the Cobb YMCA, the Boys Club of Cobb County, and on the Advisory Board of the North Georgia Law Enforcement Academy;

Whereas Stan's tenure at the Georgia Commission spanned the reformation of AT&T from several Baby Bells, the onset of local and long distance phone competition, and the dawn of the Internet Age. His service started before Atlanta hosted the 1996 Summer Olympics. Under order of the PSC, Atlanta became the first city in the nation to roll-out ten digit dialing for outgoing calls and the retail natural gas market was deregulated during his watch. Also during his tenure, billions were invested to modernize electric and natural gas energy infrastructure, plant emission controls

made air quality vastly better, and Georgia became a leader in deploying renewable energy. Moreover, Wise, as an unabashed supporter of nuclear power, dealt with critical regulatory issues surrounding the construction of two nuclear units at Plant Vogtle;

Whereas throughout his service he was an advocate for competitive markets with level playing fields and embraced the important role the Commission and utilities play in advancing economic development, job creation, community service and philanthropy;

Whereas Stan's success would not have been possible without the solid support from his life partner Denise, his beloved children, Adam, and his wife Shannon, and Lindsay, and her husband Joe, and his precious grandson;

Whereas in 2005, Commissioner Wise was named the Bonbright Center of the Terry College of Business Honoree of the Year and in 2006, his alma mater, Charleston Southern University, named Wise the Outstanding Alumnus of the Year;

Whereas two things are certain: Stan's departure will leave a major gap not easily filled and his friends at NARUC will miss his counsel, comradery, but mostly his good humor and kindness; now, therefore be it

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its Winter Policy Summit in Washington, D.C., expresses its appreciation to Stan Wise for his 23 years of hard work and service to NARUC and the people of the State of Georgia, along with its best wishes for success in his future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on Gas Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors February 14, 2018

#### Resolution Honoring George Young

Whereas the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications (the Staff Committee) are fully aware that George Young of the Vermont Public Utilities Commission recently planned to retire and will be sorely missed;

Whereas the Telecommunications Committees of NARUC are equally aware of, and have benefitted from, George's long and productive career on behalf of consumers and the public utilities that serve consumers during his tenure with the Vermont Public Utilities Commission, the New England Council of Public Utility Commissioners (NECPUC), the Joint Board on Universal Service, and the Joint Board on Separations;

Whereas George has been a fixture at NARUC, NECPUC, and Staff Subcommittee meetings in his lifetime effort to serve the public;

Whereas George's prowess at gaming is never to be underestimated;

Whereas George's career at the Vermont Public Utilities Commission has spanned many years and more than a few controversial or complex regulatory issues within the telecommunications industry, particularly on things such as minor acquisitions;

Whereas George's career at the Vermont Public Utilities Commission was not limited only to telecommunications, but also to less pressing issues of energy generation, conservation, and the public interest;

Whereas George was particularly adept at convincingly distinguishing himself as an expert editor and reviewer writ large on any and every resolution dared to be crafted by all those linguistically challenged who composed any string series consisting of nouns, verbs, and direct objects in written form;

Whereas George most especially brought that skill set, along with his ability to parse language and present frank observations in all his work, but most particularly to the Joint Board on Universal Service and the Joint Board on Separations;

Whereas the Joint Board members and staff from the States will feel George's absence quite acutely on an ongoing basis, especially when it comes to aligning costs with revenues or resolving the Gordion knot of the contribution base for universal service;

Whereas George's work has always been focused on the combination of private interest and public good, particularly when it comes to ensuring that there are comprable rates for comparable services in rural and urban America under Section 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (TA 96); and,

Whereas George's future plans will no doubt include perfecting his gaming skills and editorial acumen; now, therefore be it

*Resolved* that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its Winter Policy Meeting in Washington, D.C., recognizes the impending retirement of George Young from the Vermont Public Utilities Commission; *and be it further* 

Resolved that NARUC's Telecommunications Committee and NARUC in general hereby recognize George's retirement with much dismay and more than a little sadness because he will be sorely missed; and be it further

*Resolved* that all members of the Telecommunications Committee collectively wish George a fun, happy, joyous, and well-earned retirement; *and be it further* 

*Resolved* that all those involved with George at NARUC, whether attending or actively participating in NARUC's work, particularly over the past 25 years, wish George a very enjoyable retirement, particularly given his years of honest, frank, selfless, dedicated, and hard work on behalf of consumers and those utilities that serve consumers.

Sponsored by the Committee on Telecommunications Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors February 14, 2018