

Organizations that can pass a resolution...

- State government
- Local government
- County government
- City council
- Town council
- Borough council
- PTA/Student government
- Community Organizations
- Faith based organizations

Steps for passing a resolution in your community...

- ✓ **Tell a leader** of one of the organizations listed above that as a concerned city resident, constituent, or organizational member you want to introduce a resolution about the FCC's planned unfair tax hike.
- ✓ **Alert the local media** once the resolution is passed. Let us know, either by email (comments@keepusffair.org) or telephone (202-213-9849), and the Keep USF Fair Coalition will send you a draft media advisory and press release to help you publicize your achievement.
- ✓ **Give them a copy of the Keep USF Fair Coalition resolution** to be introduced. Share the Keep USF Fair Coalition's latest e-newsletter and website link with them, so they can learn more about the issue.
- ✓ **Send a copy of the ratified resolution to:**
 - **Community Members** — invite other groups to sign on in support!
 - **Local and State legislators** — find your representatives on www.congress.org.
 - **Federal legislators** — find your Congressional representatives at 202-224-3121 or www.congress.org.
 - **Keep USF Fair Coalition** — we'll post it on our website!
- ✓ **Tell other local residents** and/or members of the organization what you're doing, and ask for their support. Encourage them to attend the meeting where the resolution will be discussed and to speak in support of your resolution. If they can't attend the meeting, ask them to call the organization or to submit a written comment.

MEMBERS: Alliance for Public Technology • Alliance for Retired Americans • American Association of People with Disabilities • American Corn Growers Association
American Council of the Blind • Black Leadership Forum • Consumer Action • Deafness Research Foundation • Gray Panthers • Latino Issues Forum
League of United Latin American Citizens • Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition • National Association of the Deaf • National Grange • National Hispanic Council on Aging
National Native American Chamber of Commerce • Telecommunications Research & Action Center • The Seniors Coalition • World Institute on Disability • **Supporters** NAACP



Draft Resolution

PROVIDING FAIR UNIVERSAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES FOR ALL CONSUMERS

WHEREAS, The Universal Service Fund was established by the federal government to subsidize telephone service in low income communities, as well as rural areas of the country where the cost of providing basic telephone service is high, and expanded by Congress in 1996 to provide support for rural health care providers, schools and libraries;

WHEREAS, The cost of telecommunication services for consumers continues to rise and the need is great to make sure the cost of universal service programs should not add to the financial burden of low-income or fixed income residential customers;

WHEREAS, The proposals to move the collection of the universal service fee to a flat fee or exclusively numbers-based plan would be unfair to millions of consumers, especially lower call volume users if they would now pay the same fee as high volume, business users;

WHEREAS, A drastic shift in USF funding support from the current system to a flat fee, or per number based system would mean that residential customers would pay the same as business customers and low volume callers would pay the same as high volume callers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the [insert name of organization]

1. Adopts this policy statement regarding universal telecommunications services; and
2. Works with the Keep USF Fair Coalition and joins their efforts to inform federal agencies such as the FCC and the federal legislature of the importance of such a policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that [insert name of organization] will work to make sure policymakers know the importance of maintaining a USF funding methodology that will not harm the very people that the USF was created to protect, and will send this resolution to the FCC's official docket (docket 96-45).

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