



“Voice of the Western Slope since 1953”
A coalition of counties, communities, businesses & individuals

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RURAL ACCESS TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS

WHEREAS: When Congress ended the telephone monopoly in the early 1980's it created a regulatory structure which has become a hindrance to telecommunications services in rural Colorado, and

WHEREAS: The Colorado Public Utilities Commission has also, implemented policies over the past decade which were designed to work within the framework of federal policy but have now outlived their usefulness, and

WHEREAS: That regulatory climate desperately needs updated, in order to provide a more modern definition for "universal service", to allow phone companies the flexibility in rate structures to earn revenue needed for investment in new technologies, and to allow competition in telecommunications services in rural Colorado,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CLUB 20 insists that the Colorado Public Utilities Commission and the General Assembly make policy changes *which will:*

- Allow rural Colorado access to state-of-the-art technology for communications,
- Place rural areas on an equal basis with urban centers in terms of communication services required, and
- Allow free competition for rural markets in the telecommunications industry.

Adopted 9-9-94

Renewed 9/5/08