

House Concurrent Resolution No. 59

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES BROWN (149) (Sponsor), GATSCHENBERGER, WRIGHT, MUNZLINGER, FRANZ, LAIR, SMITH (150), LARGENT, FISHER (125), FLANIGAN, BRANDOM, JONES (117), PRATT, DAY, SILVEY, CUNNINGHAM, KINGERY AND TILLEY (Co-sponsors).

4882L.011

1 **Whereas**, energy policy and regulation are vital to Missouri's economy and which
2 have a direct impact on Missouri families, farmers, businesses, and employees; and
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4 **Whereas**, H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, also
5 known as the "Waxman-Markey" and "Cap and Trade", passed by the United States House of
6 Representatives and now pending before the United States Senate, will have a dramatic effect
7 on every American, increase the cost of supplying homes and businesses with electricity, cause
8 job losses, and impose burdensome costs on the poor and families with incomes of less than
9 \$10,000 annually for whom energy costs today make up 60% of their average family expenses,
10 and for families with incomes of \$10,000 to \$25,000 annually, such costs make up 25% of their
11 average family expenses; and
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13 **Whereas**, on December 7, 2009, the Administrator for the Environmental
14 Protection Agency (EPA) signed two distinct findings regarding greenhouse gases under Section
15 202(c) of the federal Clean Air Act:
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17 (1) Endangerment Finding: the Administrator finds that the current and projected
18 concentrations of the six key well-mixed greenhouse gases - carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane
19 (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur
20 hexafluoride (SF₆) - in the atmosphere threaten the public health and welfare of current and
21 future generations;
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23 (2) Cause and Contribute Finding: the administrator finds that the combined emissions
24 of these well-mixed greenhouse gases from new motor vehicles and new motor vehicle engines
25 contribute to the greenhouse gas pollution which threatens public health and welfare; and
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27 **Whereas**, this finding by the EPA, if implemented, will cost Missouri jobs and
28 raise electric rates on families, farmers, businesses, and employees; and

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30 **Whereas**, the people of Missouri are dependent on coal for their electricity,
31 obtaining approximately 80 - 85% of electrical energy from coal for their homes, farms, and
32 businesses. This heavy dependence on coal is common throughout the Midwestern states; and

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34 **Whereas**, Missouri's electric rates consistently rank among the lowest cost states
35 in the union, and is one of only three states in the United States to see electricity rates drop in the
36 years 2000 to 2008, and by the largest percentage (6%), making Missouri attractive to business
37 and industry, creating jobs, and making Missouri a low-cost place to live; and

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39 **Whereas**, the technology of the 21st Century is providing cleaner yet still
40 affordable baseload electrical generation from coal, including Super Critical Pulverized Coal
41 (Prairie State in Illinois) and Ultra Supercritical Pulverized Coal (Turk in Arkansas) as well as
42 developing options for coal to liquids, coal to gas, and carbon sequestration; and

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44 **Whereas**, the focus in Missouri and throughout the coal-dependent Midwest should
45 be on how to use technology to burn coal more cleanly and move towards cleaner burning
46 options like Ultra Supercritical Pulverized Coal, rather than a punitive system that drives up
47 costs, leads to lower baseload energy production, and inhibits or prevents progress on a fuel that
48 the United States has in abundance within its own borders:

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50 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of
51 Representatives of the Ninety-fifth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
52 concurring therein, hereby:

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54 (1) Request that our elected statewide officials express their opposition to the further
55 acceptance or approval of the Environmental Protection Agency formal endangerment finding
56 on greenhouse gases;

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58 (2) Convey that it is not well taken by and harmful to the State of Missouri;

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60 (3) Urge the Environmental Protection Agency to rescind their recent formal
61 endangerment finding on greenhouse gases; and

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63 **Be it further resolved** that the Missouri General Assembly hereby urges our
64 Missouri Congressional delegation to vote against H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy Act
65 of 2009, and further requests that our elected statewide officials express their respective positions
66 on the passage of H.R. 2454 and send a unified message to our Missouri Congressional
67 delegation; and

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69 **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
70 Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for Governor
71 Jay Nixon, President Barack Obama, President of the United States Senate, Speaker of the
72 United States House of Representatives, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection
73 Agency, and each member of the Missouri Congressional delegation.

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