

Senate Resolution 1007

By: Senators Staton of the 18th, Douglas of the 17th, Thomas of the 54th, Grant of the 25th and Harp of the 29th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Georgia Congressional delegation to oppose efforts by the United States
2 Environmental Protection Agency to make air quality standards more strict; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency on June 20, 2007, proposed
5 to tighten the eight-hour ground level ozone national ambient air quality standard from its
6 present standard of 0.08 ppm to between 0.07 and 0.075 ppm, with discussions of a standard
7 as low as 0.065 ppm; and

8 WHEREAS, tightening of the ground level ozone national ambient air quality standard
9 would increase the number of counties in the United States that are designated as
10 nonattainment counties and would move some nonattainment counties into more severe
11 nonattainment levels; and

12 WHEREAS, to meet a tightened national ambient air quality standard, nonattainment areas
13 would need to reduce ozone precursors, i.e., volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, a recent study prepared by NERA Economic Consulting and Sierra Research
16 for the National Association of Manufacturers contains some alarming conclusions
17 concerning the effects of a tightened national ambient air quality standard on the
18 metropolitan Atlanta area; and

19 WHEREAS, the study found that, for the Atlanta area, the maximum implementation of all
20 identified controls from the regulatory impact analysis of the Environmental Protection
21 Agency would not result in the area meeting the tightened national ambient air quality
22 standard, and additional measures would be needed to attempt to meet the standard; and

1 WHEREAS, the study concludes that it will cost the Atlanta area \$9.8 billion annually to
2 meet a 0.07 ppm standard and \$17.9 billion annually to meet a 0.065 ppm standard in 2020
3 and beyond; and

4 WHEREAS, the economic impact on the Atlanta area in 2025 of a 0.07 ppm standard using
5 2007 dollars would be the loss of \$11.5 billion in gross regional product, 79,300 jobs,
6 \$8.9 billion in disposable income, 112,800 people, and \$330.9 million in state tax revenue;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, the economic impact on the Atlanta area in 2025 of a 0.065 ppm standard using
9 2007 dollars would be the loss of \$20.8 billion in gross regional product, 143,200 jobs,
10 \$16.1 billion in disposable income, 204,500 people, and \$603 million in state tax revenue,
11 and

12 WHEREAS, these impacts could easily cripple the economy of the Atlanta area and have
13 profound impacts on its citizens.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
15 urge the Georgia congressional delegation to oppose efforts by the United States
16 Environmental Protection Agency to make air quality standards more strict.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
18 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to each member of the Georgia
19 congressional delegation.