

Senate Resolution 848

By: Senators Tolleson of the 20th, Shafer of the 48th, Bulloch of the 11th and Grant of the 25th

**ADOPTED SENATE**

**A RESOLUTION**

1 Urging Congress to prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from further  
2 regulating greenhouse gas emissions without a comprehensive economic and environmental  
3 study; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Senate supports reasonable and responsible air quality regulations that take  
5 all factors, both economic and environmental, into account for the benefit of the citizens of  
6 Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed or is  
8 proposing numerous new regulations, particularly in the area of air quality and regulation of  
9 greenhouse gases, that will have major effects on consumers, the economy, jobs, and U.S.  
10 competitiveness in worldwide markets, especially in Georgia; and

11 WHEREAS, concern is growing that, with cap-and-trade legislation having failed in  
12 Congress, the EPA is attempting to obtain the same results through the adoption of numerous  
13 concurrent regulations; and

14 WHEREAS, the EPA's proposed over-reaching regulations will drive jobs and industry out  
15 of Georgia and much of the United States in general; and

16 WHEREAS, the EPA has not undertaken any comprehensive study of the cumulative effect  
17 of the proposed new regulatory activity on consumers, the economy, jobs, competitiveness,  
18 and system reliability; and

19 WHEREAS, the EPA has not performed any comprehensive study of what the environmental  
20 benefits of its recently enacted and proposed emissions (new versus existing) and greenhouse  
21 regulations will be in terms of impact on regional air and water quality or global climate  
22 change; and

23 WHEREAS, state agencies in Georgia are routinely required to identify the costs of their  
24 regulations and to justify those costs relative to the benefits; and

25 WHEREAS, since the EPA has identified "taking action on climate change and improving  
26 air quality" as its first strategic goal for the 2011-15 time period, it should be required to  
27 identify the specific actions it intends to take to achieve these goals and to assess the total  
28 cost of all these actions together; and

29 WHEREAS, the South is rich in natural resources, and has historically provided more than  
30 half of our nation's energy supply; and

31 WHEREAS, more than 85 percent of our nation's energy supply comes from coal, natural  
32 gas, and crude oil, and the greatest regional supplier of these three fuels is the South; and

33 WHEREAS, based on a 2008 Bureau of Labor Statistics study, seven of the top ten states  
34 ranked by manufacturing jobs per capita are in the South; and

35 WHEREAS, the Georgia Senate supports continuing improvements in the quality of the  
36 nation's air but believes that such improvements can be made in a sensible fashion without  
37 damaging consumers and the economy so long as there is a full understanding of the cost  
38 benefit of the regulations at issue; and

39 WHEREAS, the primary goal of government at this time must be to promote economic  
40 recovery and to foster a stable and predictable business environment that will lead to the  
41 creation of jobs.

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
43 urge Congress to adopt legislation prohibiting the EPA by any means necessary from  
44 regulating greenhouse gas emissions or enacting any new air quality regulations without first  
45 undertaking a comprehensive study of the environmental and economic impact of the  
46 regulations, and requiring the Obama Administration to undertake a further study to identify  
47 all regulatory activity that the EPA intends to undertake in the furtherance of its goals.

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