

House Resolution 5EX

By: Representatives Geisinger of the 48th, Parsons of the 42nd, Martin of the 47th, Willard of the 49th, Riley of the 50th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the United States Congress to prohibit any further regulation of greenhouse gas
2 emissions by the United States Environmental Protection Agency for a period of 24 months
3 and to provide a moratorium on any further new air quality regulations by the United States
4 Environmental Protection Agency for a period of 24 months; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed or is
6 proposing numerous new regulations, particularly in the area of air quality and regulation of
7 greenhouse gases, that are likely to have major effects on the Southern economy, impacting
8 manufacturing, jobs, businesses, industries, and the competitiveness of the United States in
9 world markets; and

10 WHEREAS, the EPA's air quality and greenhouse gas regulatory proposals contain numerous
11 and overlapping requirements with potentially devastating consequences for the economy;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, concern is growing that, due to the failure of cap and trade legislation in the
14 United States Congress, the EPA is attempting to obtain the same results by regulation; and

15 WHEREAS, neither the EPA nor the Obama Administration has undertaken any
16 comprehensive study of the cumulative effects of this new regulatory activity on the nation's
17 wealth or financial system; and

18 WHEREAS, the EPA has not performed any comprehensive study of the environmental
19 benefits to be gained from its regulation in terms of global climate change; and

20 WHEREAS, state agencies routinely are required to identify the costs of their regulations and
21 to justify the costs and benefits gained; and

22 WHEREAS, since the EPA has identified "taking action on climate change and improving
23 air quality" as its first strategic goal for the 2011-2015 time period, the EPA should be
24 required to identify the specific actions that it intends to take to achieve these goals while
25 assessing the total costs of all of these actions together with the benefits to be gained; and

26 WHEREAS, Georgia and the other Southern states are rich in natural resources and
27 historically provide more than half of our nation's energy supply; and

28 WHEREAS, more than 85 percent of our country's energy supply is derived from coal,
29 natural gas, and crude oil and the greatest supplier of these critical fuels is the South; and

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

32 WHEREAS, the primary goal of government at the present must be to promote economic
33 recovery and to foster a stable and predictable business environment that will lead to the
34 creation of jobs and an expansion of our manufacturing base; and

35 WHEREAS, environmental improvement only is possible in a society that generates wealth
36 and the means to protect its natural resources.

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
38 the members of this body urge the United States Congress to:

- 39 (1) Adopt legislation prohibiting the EPA from further regulating greenhouse gas
40 emissions for the next 24 months, including, if necessary, defunding the EPA
41 greenhouse gas regulatory activity;
- 42 (2) Impose a moratorium on the promulgation of any new air quality regulations by the
43 EPA, including, if necessary, defunding the EPA air quality regulatory activities,
44 except to address an imminent health or environmental emergency, for a period of 24
45 months; and
- 46 (3) Require the Obama Administration to undertake a comprehensive study identifying
47 all EPA regulatory activities in furtherance of its goal of "taking action on climate
48 change and improving air quality" and specifying the cumulative effects of all of these
49 proposed regulations on the economy, jobs, manufacturing, and American economic
50 competitiveness. This multi-agency study should draw upon the expertise of the EPA
51 and all agencies and departments that have expertise in and responsibility for the
52 economy and the interstate electric energy grid system and should provide an

53 objective cost/benefit analysis of all of the EPA's current and planned regulatory
54 actions.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
56 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia congressional
57 delegation.