

House Resolution 1159

By: Representatives Martin of the 49th, Parsons of the 44th, and Geisinger of the 48th

A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging the Administration and Congress to establish a national energy policy that
2 strengthens access to and removal of impediments to all available domestic sources of energy
3 to improve its affordability and reliability; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) intends to adopt
5 guidelines to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from existing fossil fuel-fired electric
6 generating units under Section 111(d) of the federal Clean Air Act; and

7 WHEREAS, Congress charges the states, not EPA, with establishing standards of
8 performance under Section 111(d) of the federal Clean Air Act for existing stationary
9 sources, including fossil fuel-fired electric generating units, as a means of furthering the
10 cooperative federalism scheme under the Clean Air Act and ensuring that states have the
11 primary role in managing their economic and environmental resources; and

12 WHEREAS, providing reliable and affordable electricity through diversified sources of
13 electricity generation, including coal, natural gas, nuclear, and cost-effective renewable
14 resources, as well as using energy efficiently, will provide economic and environmental
15 benefits for the citizens of Georgia; and

16 WHEREAS, reductions in emissions of carbon dioxide can reasonably be achieved through
17 measures undertaken at each electric generating unit; and

18 WHEREAS, certain efficiency measures may be undertaken at electric generating units to
19 reduce carbon dioxide emissions from the unit without switching from coal to other fuels,
20 co-firing other fuels with coal, or limiting the utilization of the unit; and

21 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of electricity consumers in Georgia to continue to benefit
22 from reliable, affordable electricity provided by efficiently operated coal-based electricity
23 generating plants.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
25 the members of this body encourage the Administration and Congress to establish a national
26 energy policy that strengthens access to and removal of impediments to all available
27 domestic sources of energy to improve its affordability and reliability.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if EPA establishes guidelines to address greenhouse gas
29 emissions from new fossil fuel-fired electric generating units, Georgia encourages EPA to
30 establish separate guidelines for coal-fueled electric generating units that are based on highly
31 efficient units such as ultrasupercritical and supercritical technologies without CCS which
32 will optimize the economic and equitable utilization of all types of domestic fuel sources –
33 recognizing the fact that additional time is needed for carbon capture and storage to become
34 an adequately demonstrated best system of emissions reduction.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Environmental Protection Agency,
36 United States Department of Energy, and Congress should support industry efforts to
37 research and develop CCS technologies.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Environmental Protection Agency,
39 United States Department of Energy, and Congress are encouraged to support industry efforts
40 for carbon capture and sequestration, specifically exploration of geological storage
41 opportunities for states like Georgia without demonstrated geological storage locations, in
42 conjunction with development of regulations.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that EPA is encouraged to closely consult with Georgia and
44 all of the states as it develops greenhouse gas emission guidelines under Clean Air Act
45 Section 111(d) for existing power plants recognizing each state's authority under the Act to
46 set source performance standards based on:

- 47 (1) Each state's power generation mix;
- 48 (2) Cost-effective emission reductions using the best systems of emission reduction
49 adequately demonstrated for the affected facility;
- 50 (3) Practical, reasonable, and realistic state-specific implementation schedules;
- 51 (4) The cost and reliability of electricity and the economic vitality of the states; and
- 52 (5) Any other state-specific needs.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Georgia and other states should be given maximum
54 flexibility by EPA to implement carbon dioxide performance standards for fossil-fueled
55 power plants within their jurisdiction.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives encourages comments
57 from this state to EPA that reflect the findings and resolved provisions of this resolution, and
58 the General Assembly encourages other states to do likewise.

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
60 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the President of the United
61 States, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Department
62 of Energy, the National Governor's Association, the National Association of Regulatory
63 Utility Commissioners, National Association of State Energy Officials, the Environmental
64 Council of the States, the Association of Consumer Counsel and other relevant organizations,
65 all governors, all state utility regulatory commissions, state energy officials, all state
66 environmental commissioners, and all states' legislative leadership.