

1 HJR197
2 127390-2
3 By Representatives DeMarco, Johnson (R), Williams (J), Farley,
4 Treadaway and Canfield
5 RFD: Rules
6 First Read: 24-MAR-11

1

2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

3 URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADOPT
4 LEGISLATION PROHIBITING THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
5 FROM REGULATING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS WITHOUT CONGRESSIONAL
6 APPROVAL.

7

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

14 WHEREAS, EPA's regulatory activity as to air quality
15 and greenhouse gases has become known as the "train wreck,"
16 because of the numerous and overlapping requirements and
17 because of the potentially devastating consequences this
18 regulatory activity may have on the economy; and

19 WHEREAS, concern is growing that, with cap-and-trade
20 legislation having failed in Congress, EPA is attempting to
21 obtain the same results through the adoption of regulations;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, EPA over-regulation is driving jobs and
24 industry out of America; and

1 WHEREAS, although required by the Clean Air Act
2 under Section 321, 42 U.S.C. § 7621, neither EPA nor the
3 administration has conducted a comprehensive study of how many
4 jobs might be lost by regulation of greenhouse gases or what
5 the cumulative effect of all of this new regulatory activity
6 will have on the economy and competitiveness; and

7 WHEREAS, EPA has not performed any comprehensive
8 study of what the environmental benefits of its greenhouse
9 regulations will be in terms of impacts on global climate; and

10 WHEREAS, state agencies are routinely required to
11 identify the costs of their regulations and to justify those
12 costs in light of the benefits; and

13 WHEREAS, since EPA has identified "taking action on
14 climate change and improving air quality" as its first
15 strategic goal for the 2011-2015 time period, EPA should be
16 required to identify the specific actions it intends to take
17 to achieve these goals and to assess the total cost of all
18 these actions together; and

19 WHEREAS, the Legislature supports continuing
20 improvements in the quality of the nation's air and believes
21 that such improvements can be made in a sensible fashion
22 without damaging the economy so long as there is a full
23 understanding of the cost of the regulations at issue; and

24 WHEREAS, the primary goal of government at the
25 present time must be to promote economic recovery and to

1 foster a stable and predictable business environment that will
2 lead to the creation of jobs; and

3 WHEREAS, public health and welfare will suffer
4 without significant new job creation and economic improvement,
5 because people with good jobs are better able to take care of
6 themselves and their families than the unemployed and because
7 environmental improvement is only possible in a society that
8 generates wealth; and

9 WHEREAS, economists speculate, based on a variety of
10 recent analyses on GHG regulation, that EPA's approach would:
11 Reduce the gross domestic product every year for the next two
12 decades, with GDP dropping \$500 billion by 2030; reduce U.S.
13 employment by 2.5 million jobs by 2030; reduce U.S. household
14 incomes, with average household income dropping by about
15 \$1,200 annually by 2030; and increase U.S. energy costs by
16 approximately 50 percent for gasoline and residential
17 electricity prices, 75 percent for industrial electricity
18 prices and residential natural gas prices, and 600 percent for
19 electric utility coal prices; now therefore,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
21 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby call upon the
22 Members of the Alabama Delegation in the U.S. Congress to:

23 (1) Adopt legislation prohibiting EPA by any means
24 necessary from regulating greenhouse gas emissions, including,

1 if necessary, defunding EPA greenhouse gas regulatory
2 activities;

3 (2) Impose a moratorium on promulgation of any new
4 air quality regulation by EPA by any means necessary, except
5 regulation to directly address an imminent health or
6 environmental emergency, for a period of at least two years,
7 including defunding EPA air quality regulatory activities;

8 (3) Require the administration to undertake a study
9 identifying all regulatory activity that EPA intends to
10 undertake in furtherance of its goal of "taking action on
11 climate change and improving air quality" and specifying the
12 cumulative effect of all of these regulations on the economy,
13 jobs, and American economic competitiveness. This study should
14 be a multi-agency study drawing on the expertise both of EPA
15 and of agencies and departments having expertise in and
16 responsibility for the economy and the electric system and
17 should provide an objective cost-benefit analysis of all EPA's
18 current and planned regulations together.

1

2

3

4 Speaker of the House of Representatives

5

6 President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

7 House of Representatives

8 I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
9 and was adopted by the House 29-MAR-11.

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

Greg Pappas
Clerk

Senate

07-APR-11

Adopted