H. 3508.

Introduced by Representatives Barfield, Sandifer, Cato, Ott, Duncan, Pinson, Vick, Brantley, Lucas, Alexander, Erickson, Hardwick, Hiott, Moss, Haley, Jefferson, Allen, Bowen, Edge, Allison, Anthony, Bales, Ballentine, Bannister, Battle, Bowers, Brady, Branham, G.A. Brown, Clemmons, Cole, Cooper, Crawford, Daning, Delleney, Forrester, Gambrell, Gilliard, Gullick, Hamilton, Harrison, Hayes, Herbkersman, Hodges, Horne, Hutto, Kelly, Knight, Littlejohn, Long, Lowe, Mack, Miller, Mitchell, Nanney, J.M. Neal, Neilson, Owens, Parker, E.H. Pitts, M.A. Pitts, Rice, Scott, D.C. Smith, G.R. Smith, J.E. Smith, J.R. Smith, Spires, Toole, Umphlett, Viers, Weeks, White, Whitmire, Williams, Wylie, A.D. Young and T.R. Young.

A HOUSE RESOLUTION

MEMORIALIZING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE THROUGH THE ADOPTION OF A FAIR AND EFFECTIVE APPROACH THAT SAFEGUARDS AMERICAN JOBS, ENSURES AFFORDABLE ENERGY FOR CITIZENS, AND MAINTAINS AMERICA'S GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS.

WHEREAS, there is some scientific belief that greenhouse gases could impact the atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, the greenhouse gas emissions of developing countries are rising more rapidly than the emissions of the United States and have surpassed the greenhouse gas emissions of the United States and other developed countries; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina accounts for only 0.24% of total global greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, any system to regulate greenhouse gas emissions must not eliminate American jobs and diminish the ability of American industry to compete in the global marketplace; and

WHEREAS, any system to regulate greenhouse gas emissions must not add to the already high costs of power and gasoline; and

WHEREAS, any system to regulate greenhouse gas emissions must reward, and not punish, early adopters of energy efficient technologies and practice; and

WHEREAS, any system to regulate greenhouse gas emissions must adopt an international component to prevent "emissions leakage" and ensure that emissions do not simply migrate to another state or nation; and

WHEREAS, the only manner to quantify these emissions is through a domestic and international greenhouse gas emissions registry that is uniform, transparent, and verifiable; and

WHEREAS, any system to regulate greenhouse gases must ensure that the adopted regime does not result in the off-shoring of international trade sensitive industries; and

WHEREAS, manufacturing employment in August 2008 was at its lowest level since March of 1950; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina has lost over 102,000 manufacturing jobs since 1998; and

WHEREAS, manufacturing accounts for $24.9 billion of South Carolina's Gross State Product, the number one contributor to the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, any system to regulate greenhouse gas emissions must ensure the availability of sufficient, affordable energy, including clean energy, before restricting emissions in a manner that could reduce the volume of energy available to consumers; and

WHEREAS, any system to regulate greenhouse gas emissions must provide credits or allowances to support operations, such as recycling and other practices, that reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, any action taken should be structured to:

(1) promote American jobs;

(2) save American citizens and industry from higher energy prices;

(3) reward early adopters of efficient practices and technologies;

(4) prevent "emissions leakage"; and

(5) champion the global competitiveness of American industry.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the South Carolina House of Representatives:

THAT the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, memorialize the United States Congress to address the issue of global climate change through the adoption of a fair and effective approach that safeguards American jobs, ensures affordable energy for citizens, and maintains America's global competitiveness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the United States Senate, the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the South Carolina Congressional Delegation.

State of South Carolina
In the House of Representatives
Columbia, South Carolina
March 03, 2009

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed in the House of Representatives.

Robert W. Harrell, Jr.
Speaker

Charles F. Reid
Clerk of the House