

Sixty-first  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.

Introduced by

Representative Belter

1 A concurrent resolution in opposition of carbon dioxide emission standards.

2       **WHEREAS**, fuel diversity is a key component of the national economy and enhances  
3 affordability of energy, is essential for energy security, and augments energy development,  
4 production and transmission reliability; and

5       **WHEREAS**, 85 percent of our national energy consumption is based upon fossil fuels;  
6 and

7       **WHEREAS**, carbon dioxide is a natural by-product of fossil fuels; and

8       **WHEREAS**, carbon dioxide is a non-toxic gas found naturally in the environment; and

9       **WHEREAS**, reducing power plant emissions of carbon dioxide to 1990 levels as  
10 proposed by pending federal legislation would increase the consumer electricity costs by 33  
11 percent; and

12       **WHEREAS**, limits on carbon dioxide emissions will require energy rationing; and

13       **WHEREAS**, credits for 'voluntary' carbon dioxide reductions encourage support for  
14 energy rationing because the credits achieve full monetary value only under a Kyoto-like  
15 emissions cap-and-trade program; and

16       **WHEREAS**, the Energy Information Administration estimates that the Kyoto Protocol's  
17 carbon dioxide emission reduction targets could cost the United States up to \$400 billion  
18 annually; and

19       **WHEREAS**, approximately 95 percent of the greenhouse gases emitted by motor  
20 vehicles are carbon dioxide; and

21       **WHEREAS**, USDOT is currently undertaking a Corporate Average Fuel Economy  
22 rulemaking process that addresses greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles in a manner  
23 that carefully weighs the technical, economic, safety, job, competitive industrial and consumer  
24 choice implications; and

1           **WHEREAS**, state regulations of carbon dioxide emission standards for motor vehicles is  
2 tantamount to a state version of federal fuel economy mandates that reduces consumer choice  
3 by restricting production of larger, heavier vehicles that provide more utility and passenger  
4 safety; and

5           **WHEREAS**, states can best encourage greater implementation of innovative  
6 technologies through market based consumer incentives and support public/private  
7 partnerships that promote the development of advanced technologies; and

8           **WHEREAS**, the President's Global Warming Initiative stresses the importance of  
9 science in guiding policy and actions that are consistent with the need to maintain healthy  
10 economic growth. It also places increased emphasis on improving the state of climate science,  
11 so that policy actions are consistent with our state of knowledge.

12           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
13 **OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:**

14           That the North Dakota Legislative Assembly supports the free market principles  
15 contained within the President's initiative as a cost-effective and scientifically guided national  
16 program to address the climate change issue.

17           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the North Dakota Legislative Assembly is opposed  
18 to mandatory or "voluntary" carbon dioxide emission standards and the use of greenhouse  
19 transferable credits as a tool for environmental policy or regulation.

20           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this  
21 resolution to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.