

Sixty-first
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.

Introduced by

Representative Belter

1 A concurrent resolution

2 **WHEREAS**, the United States, along with 155 other countries, rejected the Kyoto
3 Protocol's energy-rationing scheme. However, even though the United States did not ratify the
4 treaty, the rate of growth in CO2 emissions in America is less than half that of many of Kyoto's
5 signatory countries in Europe and elsewhere.

6 **WHEREAS**, climate has always changed, and always will. There has been no stable
7 period of climate during the Holocene, our own climatic era, which began with the end of the
8 last ice age 12,000 years ago. during the Holocene there have been sub-periods with
9 dramatically varied climate, such as the warm Holocene Optimum (7,000 B.C. to 3,000 B.C.),
10 the warm Roman Optimum (200 B.C. to 400 A.D.), the cold Dark Ages (400 A.D. to 900 A.D.),
11 the Medieval Warm Period (900 A.D. to 1300 A.D.), THE LITTLE ICE AGE (1300 TO 1850)
12 AND OUR OWN TIME OF RELATIVE WARMTH (1850 to present).

13 **WHEREAS**, ice core data indicate higher CO2 concentrations do not cause global
14 warming. In fact, the opposite is true. The ice-core data shows that temperature rises precede
15 rises in carbon dioxide by, on average, 800 years. When the ocean-atmosphere system
16 warms, the oceans discharge vast quantities of carbon dioxide in a process known as
17 de-gassing.

18 **WHEREAS**, global warming proposals would produce no discernable benefit for the
19 environment. The Intergovernmental Panel states that doubling atmospheric CO2
20 concentrations would warm the planet 3 degrees Centigrade by 2100. Assuming this is
21 accurate, if it were possible to eliminate all U.S. CO2 emissions associated with electric

1 generation in the next 10 years (at a cost of trillions of dollars), the reduction in emissions would
2 lower the global average temperature an undetectable 0.07 degrees centigrade.

3 **WHEREAS**, global warming claims that melting sea ice will doom the polar bears to
4 extinction are vastly exaggerated. New data from the university of Illinois's Arctic climate
5 Research Center shows that global sea ice levels are now equal to those seen 29 years ago
6 when sea ice record keeping began. Furthermore, polar bear are strong swimmers, and their
7 population has grown fivefold in the past 50 years.

8 **WHEREAS**, no evidence exists to demonstrate sea levels are rising at an accelerated
9 rate. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reports no statistically significant
10 change in the rate of increase over the past century. Furthermore, satellite altimetry data
11 indicates that the rate at which the world's oceans are rising has slowed significantly since
12 2005.

13 **WHEREAS**, reports of a global retreat of glaciers are based on selective data. Glaciers
14 are advancing in many parts of the world including Mount St. Helens and Mt. Rainier in
15 Washington, Mount Shasta in California and Mount McKinley in Alaska.

16 **WHEREAS**, the science behind global warming is not settled. The impact of human
17 activity on global temperatures is questioned by thousands of reputable scientists, many of
18 whom believe natural variations in solar intensity and ocean currents have a much greater
19 influence on planetary temperatures. Other scientists note important impacts of humans other
20 than greenhouse gas emissions such as land use alternations, deforestation, urbanization, and
21 irrigation.

22 **WHEREAS**, claims that global warming will lead to stronger storms, droughts, and floods
23 are based on highly speculative computer modeling. Many scientists predict the effects of
24 global warming may be benign or even beneficial. Higher carbon dioxide concentrations
25 enhance plant growth. Warmer winters would mean longer growing seasons, lower winter
26 heating bills, and few cold-related deaths.

27 **WHEREAS**, historical temperature and precipitation records show no definitive trends in
28 North Dakota. Temperatures were hottest in the 1930s, long before growth in greenhouse gas
29 emissions. Numbers can vary more than 10 inches of moisture and 10 degrees of temperature
30 from one year to the next, suggesting there is no such thing as "normal" weather in North
31 Dakota.

1 **WHEREAS**, the accuracy of temperature data compiled by the United States Historical
2 Climatological Network using land-based temperature instruments is subject to doubt. An
3 ongoing assessment of the more than 1,200 United State Historical Climatological Network
4 monitoring sites shows only three percent of those surveyed are in strict conformance with
5 siting specifications, while nearly 70 percent are influenced by artificial heating sources such as
6 air conditioning units or asphalt parking lots.

7 **WHEREAS**, temperature data produced using microwaving sensing instruments on
8 board orbiting satellites is not subject to ground-based contamination. These satellite records
9 show global average temperatures have leveled off the past 10 years and have actually
10 declined since 2002.

11 **WHEREAS**, strong financial incentives exist to perpetuate the CO2-global warming
12 theory, which in turn may motivate those who would benefit to misrepresent facts, distort the
13 truth through selective use of data, or ignore or suppress empirical evidence that conflicts with
14 the popular belief. Climate researchers and modelers depend on government grants, news
15 media ratings are supported by scary headlines, environmentalists and corporation profit by
16 promoting green technology, traders and major market firms see potential billions in carbon
17 trading, and politicians and political activists see global warming as a way to accomplish ulterior
18 goals about changing society and increasing their powerbase. No science is immune to the
19 infection of politics and the corruption of power.

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

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