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2010

1 House Memorial

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging
3 Congress to reject the American Clean Energy and Security
4 Act and other similar energy proposals.

5
6 WHEREAS, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009
7 (H.R. 2454), also known as the Waxman-Markey bill, is pending in
8 Congress, and

9 WHEREAS, there is currently a global economic recession,
10 with unemployment rates in the United States hovering at 10
11 percent, and some estimates place the cost of implementing H.R.
12 2454 as high as \$1,500 or more per household per year, and

13 WHEREAS, if those estimates prove correct, H.R. 2454 would
14 represent the single largest tax increase in the history of the
15 United States, and

16 WHEREAS, if fully implemented, the regulatory schemes
17 created under H.R. 2454 are estimated to reduce global
18 temperatures by approximately nine-hundredths of one degree
19 Fahrenheit, and

20 WHEREAS, meaningful global emissions reductions cannot
21 happen without the aggressive participation of India, China, and
22 other developing nations, and

23 WHEREAS, China and India have indicated that they will not
24 participate in mandatory emissions control, and

25 WHEREAS, the passage of H.R. 2454 will result in job losses
26 for the citizens of the United States, and

27 WHEREAS, carbon-producing industries will be more likely to
28 move to countries where the costs to operate will be lower and

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29 | may ultimately have a negative effect on the environment as many
30 | of those nations do not employ the environmental constraints and
31 | requirements currently administered in the United States, and

32 | WHEREAS, H.R. 2454 establishes a cap-and-trade scheme in
33 | which 85 percent of the carbon rations are to be given away to
34 | preferred businesses, ensuring higher revenues for the
35 | recipients and a rise in energy prices for consumers, and

36 | WHEREAS, the costs to consumers in the United States
37 | imposed by H.R. 2454 were ignored when an amendment to suspend
38 | the program if gas prices reached a disastrous \$5 per gallon was
39 | defeated, and

40 | WHEREAS, the costs to jobs in the United States imposed by
41 | H.R. 2454 were ignored when an amendment to suspend the program
42 | if unemployment reached 15 percent was also defeated, and

43 | WHEREAS, the United States Congress has, for several years,
44 | debated and declined to grant the United States Environmental
45 | Protection Agency the authority to regulate greenhouse gases,
46 | and

47 | WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency
48 | has taken steps to unilaterally circumvent the legislative
49 | process to regulate greenhouse gases, citing the Clean Air Act,
50 | a document not meant to address the global environment, though
51 | it admits such authority under the Act is "absurd" and would
52 | stretch the doctrines of "administrative necessity," and

53 | WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency
54 | estimates such unilateral regulation would cost businesses in
55 | the United States as much as \$55 billion in these tough economic
56 | times, not to mention the suffocating costs to businesses and

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57 | local and state governments associated with additional
58 | permitting, regulation, and enforcement, and

59 | WHEREAS, the energy resources of the United States provide
60 | well-paying jobs and affordable energy for the citizens of the
61 | United States and should be bolstered, rather than undermined by
62 | transferring jobs and wealth to nations that regard this nation
63 | as an enemy, and

64 | WHEREAS, the United States must create a diverse energy
65 | portfolio that is not only sustainable, but also efficient and
66 | reliable, and

67 | WHEREAS, the United States should be focusing on improving
68 | technologies that will make coal, the nation's most abundant
69 | energy source, cleaner, and

70 | WHEREAS, nuclear energy is clean, reliable, and safe, using
71 | current technology, provides long-term cost savings, and should
72 | play a constructive role in any legitimate comprehensive energy
73 | plan, and

74 | WHEREAS, the United States can protect the environment and
75 | use the nation's energy sources, including oil, natural gas,
76 | coal, and nuclear power, to create jobs in the United States and
77 | increase national security by utilizing those resources and the
78 | ingenuity and productivity of its citizens, NOW, THEREFORE,

79 |

80 | Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

81 |

82 | That the Congress of the United States is urged to reject
83 | the American Clean Energy and Security Act (H.R. 2454), also
84 | known as the Waxman-Markey bill, and any other energy proposals

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85 | or overreaching actions by federal agencies that will
86 | artificially raise energy prices for consumers and place an
87 | undue burden on the economy and the people of the United States
88 | for little or no environmental benefit.

89 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
90 | dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
91 | President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
92 | United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
93 | the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.