

HM 1591

2010

## 1 House Memorial

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging  
3 Congress to pass comprehensive clean energy legislation.  
4

5 WHEREAS, the United States currently spends approximately  
6 \$1 billion each day to import oil, and the United States  
7 Department of Energy estimates that without comprehensive clean  
8 energy legislation, the nation's reliance on foreign oil could  
9 cost \$8.5 trillion by 2030, and

10 WHEREAS, under the current energy policy of the United  
11 States, wealth is being transferred to nations that are rich  
12 with oil, many of which are politically unstable or unfriendly  
13 to the United States, and

14 WHEREAS, the generation of electricity through the use of  
15 renewable energy presents opportunities to promote energy self-  
16 sufficiency, create jobs and economic benefits, preserve  
17 natural resources, and improve the environment, and

18 WHEREAS, over the past two decades, in the absence of  
19 comprehensive federal clean energy legislation, many states have  
20 been the true "laboratories of democracy" by independently  
21 advancing clean energy policies, and

22 WHEREAS, many states have adopted renewable energy  
23 standards and goals that require a significant percentage of a  
24 state's electricity to be generated from non-fossil fuel  
25 renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, wave, hydropower,  
26 biomass, and biofuels, which have led to significant job growth  
27 in the clean energy sector of the national economy, and

HM 1591

2010

28 WHEREAS, the Pew Charitable Trusts reports that employment  
29 in the field of clean energy has risen by nearly 250 percent  
30 over the last decade at a rate approximately 10 percent faster  
31 than the rest of the job market, and

32 WHEREAS, thousands of businesses have joined together in  
33 calling for comprehensive federal clean energy legislation,  
34 including the United States Climate Action Group and the Clean  
35 Economy Network, and

36 WHEREAS, the United States Energy Information  
37 Administration predicts the creation of up to 2 million new jobs  
38 as a result of comprehensive clean energy legislation, and

39 WHEREAS, there is significant global competition for clean  
40 energy development, and without comprehensive clean energy  
41 legislation, such competition could weaken the economy and  
42 threaten clean energy innovation in the United States, and

43 WHEREAS, without congressional action, the United States  
44 Environmental Protection Agency intends to regulate greenhouse  
45 gas emissions through administrative rules, and

46 WHEREAS, on June 26, 2009, the United States House of  
47 Representatives passed the American Clean Energy and Security  
48 Act on a bipartisan vote, and bipartisan members of the United  
49 States Senate are currently considering and drafting the Clean  
50 Energy Jobs and American Power Act, and

51 WHEREAS, the United States Congress has the historic  
52 opportunity to enact comprehensive clean energy legislation that  
53 will strengthen our national security, increase the number of  
54 clean energy jobs, reduce pollution, and advance clean energy  
55 innovation in the United States, NOW, THEREFORE,

HM 1591

2010

56

57 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

58

59 That the United States Congress is urged to pass  
60 comprehensive clean energy legislation to create a unified  
61 framework that reduces greenhouse gas emissions; protects low-  
62 income and moderate-income citizens from increased energy costs;  
63 invests substantially in energy efficiency; supports alternative  
64 sources of energy, including, but not limited to, wind, solar,  
65 wave, hydroelectricity, biofuels, advanced nuclear energy  
66 research, and clean coal technologies; provides strong  
67 protections for environmentally sensitive offshore and onshore  
68 oil and gas exploration and makes all new exploration subject to  
69 the approval of affected states; acknowledges the carbon-  
70 intensive nature of the United States economy and includes  
71 emissions offsets that protect energy consumers; does not  
72 preempt state legislative efforts to control carbon emissions;  
73 and advances clean energy innovations.

74 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
75 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the  
76 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the  
77 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of  
78 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.