

10 A RESOLUTION CONCERNING
20 A LONG TERM ENERGY PLAN

30 WHEREAS: The U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration (EIA)
40 projects that by 2020, energy consumption will increase by about 32 percent,
50 which will create a shortfall between energy supply and demand; and,

60 WHEREAS: During this time, U.S. consumption of oil is predicted to increase by 33 percent,
70 and consumption of natural gas will increase by over 50 percent; and,

80 WHEREAS: Contributing to this growing gap between supply and demand are the following
90 factors: limited access to known resources; statutory and regulatory constraints;
100 uncertainty in the energy industry that inhibits investment; and the failure of past
110 federal efforts to coordinate energy, environment, and trade policies; and,

120 WHEREAS: In the long run, this imbalance threatens not only the economy and Americans'
130 standard of living, but also national security; and,

140 WHEREAS: Recognizing the essential role that energy plays in the U.S. economy, President
150 George W. Bush has called for a balanced, responsible, and comprehensive
160 national energy policy; the President's proposal seeks to ensure that consumers
170 and businesses will have access to reliable and affordable supplies of energy in
180 the future; and,

190 WHEREAS: The availability of energy at reasonable prices is key to economic growth and
200 national security; a primary goal of Congress should be to enact a long-term
210 energy plan that balances supply and demand; ensures affordable, reliable, and
220 sufficient supplies of energy for the future; and provides responsible stewardship
230 of the nation's resources; and,

240 WHEREAS: U.S. law prohibits exploration in the eastern Gulf of Mexico and on the outer
250 continental shelves and severely restricts access to resources in the Rocky
260 Mountains; overly restrictive leases and difficulties in acquiring permits to drill
270 wells on government land also limit natural gas production; and,

280 WHEREAS: Such statutory and regulatory controls make the United States more vulnerable
290 to disruptions in supply at a time when its energy needs demand greater
300 development of domestic resources; untapped domestic energy resources should
310 be explored and developed in order to lessen the nation's dependence on imports
320 and vulnerability to disruptions in supply; and,

330 WHEREAS: Federal policy should not favor one fuel source over another. Coal, natural gas,
340 nuclear power, oil, and renewable energy sources should all be included in the
350 mix of fuel resources; the market--not government regulations--should
360 determine the winners and losers; and,

370 WHEREAS: The United States should expand trade relations with energy-rich countries such
380 as Canada and Russia as well as Latin American producers and West African
390 producers; and,

400 WHEREAS: A dependable system to deliver this energy to industry and consumers is vital,
410 existing transmission constraints limit the flow of power and cause consumers to
420 pay higher prices for electricity, and insufficient domestic pipeline capacity has
430 caused peak-load problems in moving oil and petroleum products from one

440 region of the country to another; and,

450 WHEREAS: Improvement and expansion of the nation's electricity grid and pipeline systems
460 are needed to increase reliability, lower costs and prices, and meet increased
470 demand; sound deregulation--as opposed to re-regulation--of the electricity
480 sector is long overdue and necessary to accomplish this goal.

490 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges Congress to
500 implement a long-term energy plan that balances supply and demand and
510 ensures reliable and affordable supplies of energy for the future; and,

520 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this plan increase domestic supplies of energy, promote
530 fuel diversity, and modernize the nation's energy infrastructure.

540 MANDATES: President George W. Bush
550 Vice President Richard Cheney
560 Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist
570 Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle
580 House Majority Leader Tom Delay
590 House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi
600 Congresswoman Sue Kelly
610 Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Christine Todd Whitman
620 Department of Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham

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