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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, A majority of the world's climate scientists have concluded that greenhouse gases are causing the Earth's temperature to rise, a phenomenon that is resulting in global climate change; and

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WHEREAS, The effects of unchecked global warming pose a threat to our nation's health, agriculture, and national security; and

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WHEREAS, The United States participated in an international summit on climate change in Copenhagen, Denmark to begin negotiations on a treaty to reduce greenhouse gas emissions worldwide; and

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WHEREAS, The United States House of Representatives passed H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, on June 26, 2009; and

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WHEREAS, United States Senators Barbara Boxer and John Kerry have introduced S. 1733 in the U.S. Senate; and

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WHEREAS, United States Senators John Kerry and Lindsey Graham co-authored an editorial in the New York Times outlining a bi-partisan approach to mitigating climate change; and

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1 WHEREAS, 15 states have initiated economy-wide greenhouse
2 gas reduction goals; 13 states have regulated emissions from
3 automobile tailpipes; 10 states have set limits on greenhouse
4 gas emissions from power plants; 12 Midwestern states,
5 including the State of Illinois, have entered into an agreement
6 to promote global warming solutions in the Midwest; and

7 WHEREAS, The Governors of Illinois, Iowa, Michigan,
8 Minnesota, and Wisconsin have entered into an agreement to
9 jointly develop greenhouse gas emission reduction targets;
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
12 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
13 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we state our belief that the
14 United States of America should lead the international
15 community in brokering an international agreement to
16 significantly reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases to
17 ensure that all countries equally share the in the
18 responsibility of mitigating climate change; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That we urge the United States Congress to pass
20 legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and be it
21 further

1 RESOLVED, That we state our belief that such national
2 legislation should include provisions to protect low and
3 moderate income Americans from increased energy costs; include
4 support for alternative sources of energy, including, but not
5 limited to, wind, solar, bio-fuels, nuclear, and clean coal;
6 provide for a suitable investment in energy efficiency; allow
7 for environmentally sensitive off-shore and on-shore oil and
8 gas exploration, subject to the approval of affected states;
9 and properly acknowledge the carbon-intensive nature of the
10 Illinois economy and include emissions offsets that protect
11 energy consumers and gradually reduces greenhouse gases; and be
12 it further

13 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
14 presented to the United States Congress and the President of
15 the United States.