



HR0182

LRB096 11991 JDS 23697 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, California has implemented more stringent motor  
3 vehicle air emissions regulations than the federal government  
4 for over 40 years; and

5           WHEREAS, In recognition of the pioneering role of  
6 California in protecting public health and welfare from motor  
7 vehicle emissions, the United States Congress enacted  
8 subdivision (b) of Section 209 of the federal Clean Air Act (42  
9 U.S.C. 7543(b)) that allows the Administrator of the United  
10 States Environmental Protection Agency ("the Administrator")  
11 to waive federal preemption of state motor vehicle standards;  
12 and

13           WHEREAS, Once a waiver is granted to California for that  
14 regulation, other states may adopt the vehicle emission  
15 standards established by California; and

16           WHEREAS, On December 19, 2007, Administrator Stephen L.  
17 Johnson of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency denied  
18 California its requested waiver for the right to impose its own  
19 standards for carbon dioxide emissions from automobiles; and

20           WHEREAS, According to the Congressional Research Service,  
21 California has requested waivers of preemption under

1 subdivision (b) of Section 209 of the federal Clean Air Act (42  
2 U.S.C. 7543(b)) for vehicle emission standards more than 50  
3 times since that provision was enacted, and the Administrator  
4 has never previously denied such a request, but has instead  
5 always granted the requests in whole or in part; and

6 WHEREAS, The President of the United States, Barack Obama,  
7 has directed the Administrator to reconsider California's  
8 waiver request, which was rejected by the previous  
9 administration; and

10 WHEREAS, The Administrator has begun the process of  
11 reconsidering California's request; and

12 WHEREAS, An analysis by the California Air Resources Board  
13 shows that the California standards, once fully adopted, would,  
14 when compared with the status quo under the federal Clean Air  
15 Act, result by 2020, in a two-fold greater reduction in carbon  
16 dioxide emissions in California and an 80 percent greater  
17 reduction in carbon dioxide emissions nationally; and

18 WHEREAS, Thirteen states and the District of Columbia have  
19 already taken steps to follow California's emissions  
20 standards, which, according to Environment America, will  
21 reduce global warming pollution by more than 450 million metric  
22 tons by 2020, a reduction equivalent to eliminating all of the

1 pollution from 84.7 million of today's cars for a year; and

2 WHEREAS, Illinois supports California's right under the  
3 Clean Air Act to set stricter standards than the federal  
4 government for motor vehicle emissions and the rights of other  
5 states to implement California's standards; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
7 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
8 this House hereby encourages the United States Environmental  
9 Protection Agency to grant California a waiver necessary to  
10 achieve greenhouse gas reductions from motor vehicles as  
11 required by California law; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That this House opposes preemption of state laws  
13 and regulations that are stronger than federal laws or  
14 regulations to reduce global warming emissions; and be it  
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to the  
17 President and Vice President of the United States, to the  
18 Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader  
19 of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative from Illinois  
20 in the Congress of the United States, and to the Administrator  
21 of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.