



HR0536HAM001

LRB099 12595 MST 36347 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 536

2 AMENDMENT NO. ____ . Amend House Resolution 536 as follows:

3 by replacing everything after the heading with the following:

4 "WHEREAS, Illinois has been a leader in energy production
5 within the United States, in large part due to Illinois' vast
6 coal resources; and

7 WHEREAS, Illinois has the largest recoverable bituminous
8 coal reserves in the United States, a reserve base larger than
9 all but 6 countries in the world, and the ability to produce
10 all of America's electricity needs for 50 years; and

11 WHEREAS, Illinois is a net exporter of electricity, the
12 largest electricity exporter in the Midwest, and one of the
13 largest in the United States; nearly 45% of Illinois' energy
14 comes from coal-burning plants within the State; and

1 WHEREAS, Coal power plants in the United States have met
2 the environmental challenges of the past 4 decades while
3 meeting the low-cost energy needs of the nation; and

4 WHEREAS, The Illinois coal industry is currently
5 responsible for over \$2,500,000,000 in annual economic
6 activity within the State, including employing approximately
7 5,000 miners with an average salary of \$85,000 a year, higher
8 than both the United States and Illinois median household
9 incomes; and

10 WHEREAS, The Illinois coal industry has faced increased
11 environmental regulations in the last 2 decades that resulted
12 in coal production going from 62 million tons of mined coal in
13 1990 to a low of 31 million tons in 2003 and a loss of 6,500
14 direct jobs during this time period; and

15 WHEREAS, The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 imposed
16 strict sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emission standards, making coal
17 mined in Illinois unusable without flue gas desulfurization
18 (FGD) equipment, often referred to as "scrubbers"; and

19 WHEREAS, Technology can be deployed that allows
20 high-sulfur Illinois coal to be burned efficiently while
21 meeting strict State and federal air emission standards;

1 specifically, the State of Illinois should be encouraging the
2 retrofitting and use of advanced clean coal technologies such
3 as flue gas desulfurization, wet electro-static precipitators
4 (wet ESPs), and oxy-combustion; and

5 WHEREAS, Illinois currently exports coal to 18 states that
6 utilize advanced clean coal technologies; and

7 WHEREAS, Illinois power plants currently use Wyoming coal
8 despite the fact that advanced clean coal technology would
9 allow the utilization of Illinois coal, saving Illinois
10 consumers hundreds of millions of dollars; and

11 WHEREAS, It is costing Illinois consumers more than
12 \$1,000,000,000 annually to import coal from other states,
13 primarily from Wyoming; and

14 WHEREAS, Using Illinois coal within Illinois would lead to
15 substantial economic benefits by saving \$1,000,000,000 in
16 transportation costs and creating thousands of new jobs in
17 mining and ancillary industries in currently economically
18 depressed counties in central and southern Illinois while
19 creating more State and local tax revenue; and

20 WHEREAS, Using Illinois coal within Illinois benefits the
21 environment as well as the economy by reducing CO2 emissions

1 through the use of higher rank coals; and

2 WHEREAS, Switching to Illinois coal through the
3 retrofitting and use of advanced clean coal technologies would
4 reduce CO2 emissions by at least 4% annually because Illinois
5 basin coal has a lower CO2 content than Wyoming coal, and an
6 additional 20% reduction in CO2 emissions would result from the
7 reduction in transportation related emissions annually; and

8 WHEREAS, The recent growth in Illinois coal production has
9 been due to approximately \$10 billion in new investment in the
10 past 10 years in the Illinois coal fields producing low-cost
11 coal and the retrofitting of pollution control technology in
12 power plants throughout the United States in response to
13 changes in the Clean Air Act mandating reduced air emissions;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The switch to Illinois coal will improve the
16 competitiveness of Illinois power generation as Illinois coal
17 has a lower delivered cost, stable pricing, and higher heat
18 content; once retrofitted with advanced technology, Illinois
19 power plants fired with Illinois coal should be more
20 competitive in electricity markets, thereby helping to insure
21 the continued generation of competitive power for both in-state
22 customers and the out-of-state electricity market; and

1 WHEREAS, Much of the State of Illinois overlays the Mount
2 Simon Sandstone, a saline-filled, porous, deep geological
3 formation of enormous capacity that has been determined to be
4 one of the most significant carbon resources in the United
5 States, and its development could result in expanded use of
6 Illinois coal in a carbon-constrained world; and

7 WHEREAS, It is vital that Illinois coal be considered part
8 of an "All of the Above" approach to energy production in order
9 to keep Illinois as a leader in energy production, job
10 creation, economic growth, and environmental protection; and

11 WHEREAS, Illinois coal must be part of the solution to
12 reducing the State's carbon emissions and complying with
13 federal carbon emission requirements; and

14 WHEREAS, Sufficient studies have taken place, and the data
15 is clear that Illinois power plants should be using Illinois
16 coal; and

17 WHEREAS, Dynege should offer to the people of the State of
18 Illinois an explanation of its plans for its 10 coal-fired
19 plants in Illinois; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
21 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we

1 urge the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the
2 Illinois Commerce Commission, the Illinois Power Agency, the
3 Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and
4 the Illinois Department of Revenue to take action to implement
5 the use of Illinois coal; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That we urge all agencies and stakeholders
7 developing strategies to comply with new federal carbon
8 emissions requirements to utilize Illinois coal to reduce
9 carbon emissions; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That we urge Dynegy to provide an explanation of
11 its plans for its 10 coal-fired plants in Illinois to the
12 General Assembly and Governor Rauner prior to June 14, 2015;
13 and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
15 delivered to Governor Bruce Rauner, the Illinois Congressional
16 delegation, and all the members of the General Assembly."