

By: Craddick

H.R. No. 1833

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Fossil fuels, including coal, natural gas, and oil,
2 currently meet more than three quarters of primary global energy
3 demand around the world and in the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, According to the International Energy Agency, under
5 current energy and environmental policies, fossil fuels will
6 continue to play a role of this magnitude for the next quarter
7 century or more; even assuming global adoption of policies
8 consistent with the IEA's "climate-stabilizing" 450 Scenario, more
9 than half of total worldwide and U.S. energy demand would still be
10 met by fossil fuels in 2040; and

11 WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Energy has reported that
12 "carbon capture, utilization, and storage technologies provide a
13 key pathway to address the urgent U.S. and global need for
14 affordable, secure, resilient, and reliable sources of clean
15 energy"; environmental advocates who recognize the value and
16 enduring role of fossil fuels as an essential source of energy have
17 come to support the accelerated development and broad deployment of
18 carbon capture technologies for fossil fuels as part of a
19 sustainable energy future; similarly, fossil energy advocates who
20 have recognized the role carbon capture can play in creating new
21 opportunities support the development and deployment of carbon
22 capture technologies for fossil fuels; and

23 WHEREAS, The United States and Texas have abundant supplies
24 of fossil energy, the production and use of which provide important

1 economic, energy, and national security benefits to our nation and
2 our state; Texas is the nation's largest producer of natural gas,
3 oil, lignite coal, and fossil fuels in total, and it has the
4 nation's largest proved reserves of both natural gas and oil, as
5 well as the ninth-largest recoverable reserves of coal; it is the
6 nation's largest consumer of coal for electricity generation and
7 the largest consumer of natural gas for both electricity generation
8 and industrial use; 77 percent of the electricity generated in
9 Texas is produced from the use of fossil fuels; and

10 WHEREAS, Reliable and affordable electricity is vital to
11 economic growth and job creation and to the well-being of all
12 citizens; according to the U.S. Department of Energy, "A diverse
13 portfolio of energy resources is critical to U.S. energy and
14 national policy . . . being more robust and resilient in comparison
15 to a system that is heavily dependent on a limited set of energy
16 resources . . . [and] helps insulate the economy from certain
17 risks, including price volatility and risks from supply
18 disruptions"; and

19 WHEREAS, Texas is a leader in the research and development of
20 technologies that provide clean, safe, and reliable power
21 generation, and it is committed to continued research and
22 development of carbon reduction strategies for fossil fuels,
23 including existing and emerging CCUS technologies such as
24 geological sequestration, mineral carbonation, and the beneficial
25 use of captured carbon dioxide; and

26 WHEREAS, In Texas, many academic, private, and governmental
27 initiatives and institutions are engaged in efforts to address the

1 environmental, health, and economic impacts of energy production
2 and use through collaborations on applied CO₂ research, practical
3 applications, workforce development, and public education; among
4 them are the Petra Nova Project at the W. A. Parish Electric
5 Generating Station in Fort Bend County, the Texas Clean Energy
6 Project in Ector County, the NET Power project in Harris County, the
7 Energy and Environment Initiative at Rice University, the Texas
8 Carbon Management Project, and the Gulf Coast Carbon Center at The
9 University of Texas at Austin; and

10 WHEREAS, Legislation was introduced in the 114th U.S.
11 Congress to enhance and extend current federal tax incentives,
12 under Section 45Q of the Internal Revenue Code, that sustain and
13 promote such collaborations and encourage private industry in
14 energy generation, manufacturing, and agriculture to adopt and
15 deploy existing and emerging technologies that increase carbon
16 capture, utilization, and storage; environmental and energy
17 advocates have come together in support of this legislation in a
18 groundbreaking coalition of environmental advocacy groups, labor
19 unions, and energy producers from the coal, oil and gas, ethanol,
20 and algae-biomass industries; moreover, the legislation has
21 received strong bipartisan support in both the United States Senate
22 and the United States House of Representatives; and

23 WHEREAS, Congress and the president are also currently
24 considering a large-scale federal infrastructure initiative to
25 strengthen our nation's transportation, public works, and energy
26 infrastructure, which could also serve as a vehicle for advancing
27 "jobs-ready" carbon capture projects; the U.S. Department of Energy

1 has determined that "a combination of tax incentives and research,
2 development, demonstration, and deployment (RDD&D) will be
3 critical to developing transformational carbon capture
4 technologies and to driving down the costs of capture"; and

5 WHEREAS, The Lone Star State has long been committed to a
6 forward-looking energy strategy that maximizes both environmental
7 quality and economic opportunity; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
9 Legislature hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United
10 States to enact legislation to expand and extend the current
11 federal tax credit for carbon capture, utilization, and storage
12 under Section 45Q of the Internal Revenue Code; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Texas House of Representatives
14 respectfully urge Congress to provide appropriations to the U.S.
15 Department of Energy sufficient to achieve and sustain a robust
16 carbon capture research, development, demonstration, and
17 deployment program and to support the inclusion of economically and
18 environmentally beneficial carbon capture projects in any
19 forthcoming federal infrastructure initiative; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Texas House of Representatives
21 respectfully urge Congress to support policies to increase the
22 operational efficiency, and thereby the environmental performance,
23 of existing electric-generating units and to support the
24 preservation of a fuel-diverse electric generation portfolio
25 critical to our domestic economic, energy, and national security;
26 and, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the chief clerk forward official copies of

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1 this resolution to the president of the United States, to the
2 president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
3 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
4 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
5 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
6 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.