

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 22, 2010

ENGROSSED

Senate Concurrent
Resolution No. 41

ENGROSSED SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 41 - By: LAMB, JOLLEY, SYKES, RUSSELL, PADDACK, FORD, STANISLAWSKI, NEWBERRY, BRANAN, MYERS, JOHNSON (MIKE), BARRINGTON, ADELSON, SCHULZ, IVESTER, COFFEE AND JUSTICE of the Senate and OSBORN of the House.

A Concurrent Resolution opposing federal cap and trade proposals and certain United States Environmental Protection Agency regulations; and directing distribution.

1 WHEREAS, federal legislative proposals designed to control pollution by providing
2 economic incentives for achieving reductions in the emissions of pollutants, otherwise
3 known as cap and trade, would result in significantly higher production costs for many of
4 our state businesses, especially Oklahoma's two principal industries: agriculture and oil
5 and gas; and

6 WHEREAS, the potential benefits of agricultural offsets from cap and trade
7 proposals are unavailable to many producers, are far outweighed by the costs and would
8 be harmful to the entire United States agricultural system – one of the most productive
9 systems in the world; and

1 WHEREAS, such cap and trade proposals threaten our nation's energy security and
2 move our national energy policy away from clean burning domestically produced natural
3 gas; and

4 WHEREAS, many oil and gas producers oppose cap and trade legislation because
5 they fear Americans will see only higher energy prices and job losses as a result, and
6 they continue to stress the importance of producing clean-burning, domestically produced
7 natural gas resources as the best way to help reduce pollution; and

8 WHEREAS, the Obama administration's latest economic projections show that the
9 proposed cap and trade legislation would result in planting trees on fifty-nine million
10 acres of crop and pasture land thereby threatening the capability of our nation's
11 agricultural producers to feed a growing world population and causing a significant rise
12 in consumer food prices; and

13 WHEREAS, intense public scrutiny has revealed how unsettled the science is on
14 climate change and the unwillingness of many of the world's climatologists to share data
15 or even entertain opposing viewpoints on the subject; and

16 WHEREAS, the recent climate summit in Copenhagen resulted in demands for the
17 United States to transfer billions of dollars to the developing world to fight climate
18 change, but produced no meaningful agreement; and

19 WHEREAS, in addition to their concern over federal cap and trade legislation, our
20 nation's farmers would be further burdened by the U.S. Environmental Protection
21 Agency's proposals to selectively regulate greenhouse gases under the federal Clean Air
22 Act, and on their behalf, we oppose any attempt to enact such regulation.

UNDERLINED language denotes Amendments to present Statutes.
BOLD FACE CAPITALIZED language denotes Committee Amendments.
~~Strike thru~~ language denotes deletion from present Statutes.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND
2 SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

4 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate strongly opposes federal cap and trade proposals
5 and supports any legislative action that would suspend the U.S. Environmental
6 Protection Agency’s authority to regulate greenhouse gases under the provisions of the
7 federal Clean Air Act.

8 THAT the members of this body strongly urge the members of the United States
9 Congress to block further federal involvement in climate change legislation that would be
10 detrimental to the agricultural and oil and gas producers of this nation, and on their
11 behalf, we further send this message to Congress: “Don’t Cap Our Future”.

12 THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the members of the Oklahoma
13 congressional delegation.

14 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.