

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature (2012)

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT  
4 RESOLUTION 1031

By: Enns

5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Concurrent Resolution calling for Congressional  
8 oversight of the United States Environmental  
9 Protection Agency; specifying matters of concern; and  
10 directing distribution.

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12 WHEREAS, recent years have seen the United States Environmental  
13 Protection Agency (EPA) propose and promulgate new regulations at a  
14 rate and of a scope that are unprecedented; and

15 WHEREAS, in many cases the new regulations proposed or  
16 promulgated by EPA present overlapping or even inconsistent  
17 requirements, resulting in unwarranted burdens and unnecessary  
18 confusion for the regulated community; and

19 WHEREAS, many of these new regulations have a high potential to  
20 have a marked negative effect on the economy, jobs and U.S.  
21 competitiveness in worldwide markets, and cumulatively, the effects  
22 may be extreme; and

23 WHEREAS, it is especially critical at the present time that  
24 government promote economic recovery and foster a stable and

1 predictable business environment that will lead to the creation of  
2 jobs; and

3 WHEREAS, it is also especially important at this time to avoid  
4 unnecessarily increasing costs to business and industry that must be  
5 passed on to consumers and ratepayers; and

6 WHEREAS, EPA promulgates many regulatory actions seemingly with  
7 little or no regard for the costs; and

8 WHEREAS, it is imperative that new regulations be supported by  
9 scientific study and data that demonstrate the need for additional  
10 regulatory mandates or constraints; and

11 WHEREAS, if new regulations are found to be essential, they  
12 should be carefully tailored to minimize adverse economic impacts to  
13 the regulated community and the public, including the establishment  
14 of reasonable time frames for compliance with new requirements; and

15 WHEREAS, states are in a better position to evaluate the  
16 environmental and economic needs and circumstances extant within the  
17 state than EPA and other federal agencies are; and

18 WHEREAS states have shown that they are a productive source of  
19 ideas and innovation and often are leaders in promoting efficient  
20 and effective environmental practices; and

21 WHEREAS, state agencies are routinely required to identify the  
22 costs of their regulations and to justify those costs in light of  
23 the benefits; and

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1           WHEREAS, state environmental agencies in Oklahoma and in most  
2 other states have demonstrated the ability to adopt and implement  
3 rules and programs that provide a safe and healthy environment for  
4 citizens of the state in a more efficient and cost-effective way  
5 than EPA.

6           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
7 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 53RD OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE  
8 CONCURRING THEREIN:

9           THAT the Oklahoma Legislature calls on the United States  
10 Congress to exercise extensive and careful oversight of the United  
11 States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and pass legislation  
12 as necessary, to ensure that:

13           1. EPA promulgates nationally applicable rules only when there  
14 is a significant national or interstate issue involved, deferring to  
15 the states otherwise;

16           2. EPA regulations are based on sound science and are fully  
17 vetted, with extensive opportunity for comment and deliberation,  
18 including by the states;

19           3. EPA takes into consideration all plausible alternatives to  
20 address an asserted or perceived regulatory need;

21           4. EPA takes into account the costs of new regulations not  
22 only to business and industry, but also to the general public,  
23 whether directly or indirectly; and  
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1           5. When EPA promulgates new rules, it allows fully adequate  
2 time for compliance, considering both the human and other resources  
3 required as well as the direct economic cost.

4           THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the members of  
5 the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation, the Speaker of the United  
6 States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the  
7 United States Senate, Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator of the United  
8 States Environmental Protection Agency, and Governor Mary Fallin.

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