

Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly, State of North Dakota, begun in the Capitol in the City of Bismarck, on Tuesday, the fifth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3041
(Representative Grosz)
(Senator Traynor)

A concurrent resolution urging the Environmental Protection Agency to reduce gasoline sulfur levels to provide the flexibility of a regional approach that will maximize air quality benefits and to propose regulations reducing vehicle emissions in recognition that fuels and vehicles work in tandem and neither fuels nor vehicles can be addressed in isolation.

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency believes that sulfur reductions are necessary to maximize emissions reductions from motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency plans to propose very stringent gasoline sulfur regulations and more stringent vehicle tailpipe emission standards; and

WHEREAS, some states' air pollution problems are far greater than others and require greater reduction of sulfur and other states, especially those states in the western portion of the nation, have minimal air pollution problems that require less of a reduction of sulfur; and

WHEREAS, because California gasoline was developed to address air quality problems unique to California and air quality problems in other states are not as severe as those in California, the air quality problems in other states do not necessitate the same solutions; and

WHEREAS, limitation of consumer mobility and freedom may result from reducing sulfur in gasoline because higher manufacturing costs may be passed on to consumers; and

WHEREAS, although new investments in clean air are needed, consumers should not have to pay more than necessary for gasoline to achieve the goal of clean air; and

WHEREAS, fuels and vehicles work together as a system and the right combination of fuel and vehicle controls will result in cleaner air and a cost-effective solution; and

WHEREAS, the American Petroleum Institute and the National Petrochemical Refiners Association have proposed a program for reducing gasoline sulfur levels which will reduce nitrogen oxides emissions by more than 75,000 tons annually and will cut gasoline sulfur levels by at least 50 percent;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly urges the Environmental Protection Agency to reduce gasoline sulfur levels to provide the flexibility of a regional approach that will maximize air quality benefits; to propose regulations that reflect the American Petroleum Institute and National Petrochemical Refiners Association gasoline sulfur reduction proposal, which calls for 150 parts per million average sulfur levels in 28 primary eastern states and East Texas, and 300 parts per million average sulfur levels in the remaining states, with the exception of California, which has a program specific to California; to propose regulations that are cost-effective in order to limit the burden on consumers; and to propose regulations that reduce vehicle emissions that recognize that fuels and vehicles work in tandem and that neither fuels nor vehicles can be addressed in isolation, therefore, the Environmental Protection Agency must strike a balance in regulating vehicles and fuels; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the Regional Administrator of Region VIII of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the State Health Officer, the Governor, and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 1999,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State