

1 SR130
2 187192-1
3 By Senator Ross
4 RFD:
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8 URGING CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
9 STATES TO EXPAND AND EXTEND SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND
10 DEPLOYMENT OF CARBON CAPTURE AND OTHER ECONOMICALLY AND
11 ENVIRONMENTALLY BENEFICIAL FOSSIL-ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES.

12
13 WHEREAS, fossil fuels, such as coal, natural gas,
14 and oil, currently provide more than three quarters of global
15 and U.S. primary energy demand and, according to the
16 International Energy Agency (IEA), will continue to do so,
17 under current energy and environmental policies, for the next
18 quarter century or more; and

19 WHEREAS, even assuming adoption across the entire
20 world of policies consistent with the IEA's
21 "climate-stabilizing" 450 Scenario, more than half of total
22 global and U.S. energy demand will still be met by fossil
23 fuels in 2040; and

24 WHEREAS, recognition of the value and enduring role
25 of fossil fuels as an essential source of energy around the
26 world and in the United States for decades to come has led
27 environmental advocates to support the accelerated development

1 and broad deployment of carbon capture technologies for fossil
2 fuels as part of a sustainable energy future; and

3 WHEREAS, recognition of the role carbon capture can
4 play in creating new opportunities for fossil fuels has led
5 fossil energy advocates to similarly support the development
6 and deployment of carbon capture technologies for fossil
7 fuels; and

8 WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Department of Energy,
9 "carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) technologies
10 provide a key pathway to address the urgent U.S. and global
11 need for affordable, secure, resilient, and reliable sources
12 of clean energy"; and

13 WHEREAS, the United States has abundant supplies of
14 fossil energy, the production and use of which provide
15 important economic energy and national security benefits to
16 our nation and our state; and

17 WHEREAS, Alabama is the nation's fifth largest
18 consumer of coking coal and eighth largest consumer of both
19 coal and natural gas for industrial use; and

20 WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Department of Energy,
21 "A diverse portfolio of energy resources is critical to U.S.
22 energy and national policy...being more robust and resilient
23 in comparison to a system that is heavily dependent on a
24 limited set of energy resources....[and] helps insulate the
25 economy from certain risks, including price volatility and
26 risks from supply disruptions"; and

1 WHEREAS, reliable and affordable electricity is
2 vital to economic growth and job creation in Alabama and the
3 overall welfare of our citizens; and

4 WHEREAS, sixty-four percent of the electricity
5 generated in Alabama is produced from the use of fossil fuels;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Alabama is the nation's seventh largest
8 generator of electricity from fossil fuels, sixth largest
9 consumer of natural gas for electricity generation, and the
10 second largest net exporter of electricity to other states;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, the average price of electricity in Alabama
13 is 6.7 percent below the national average; and

14 WHEREAS, Alabama has long been committed to, and is
15 a leader in, the research and development of technologies that
16 provide clean, safe, and reliable power generation; and

17 WHEREAS, continued research and development of
18 carbon reduction strategies for fossil fuels, including
19 existing and emerging CCUS technologies such as geological
20 sequestration, mineral carbonation, and the beneficial use of
21 captured carbon dioxide (CO₂), is an essential element of a
22 forward-looking sustainable energy strategy for Alabama, our
23 nation, and the world that simultaneously maximizes both
24 environmental quality and economic opportunity; and

25 WHEREAS, the National Carbon Capture Center in
26 Wilsonville and other public and private initiatives and
27 institutions within Alabama are engaged in efforts to address

1 environmental, health, and economic impacts of energy
2 production and use through collaborations on applied CO2
3 research, practical applications, workforce development, and
4 public education; and

5 WHEREAS, legislation was introduced in the 114th
6 Congress to enhance and extend current federal tax incentives
7 under Section 45Q of the Internal Revenue Code that serve to
8 sustain and promote such collaborations and to encourage
9 private industry in energy generation, manufacturing, and
10 agriculture to adopt and deploy existing and emerging
11 technologies that increase carbon capture, utilization, and
12 storage; and

13 WHEREAS, the coming together of environmental and
14 energy advocates in support of carbon capture is reflected in
15 the ground-breaking coalition of environmental advocacy
16 groups, labor unions, and energy producers from the coal, oil
17 and gas, ethanol, and algae-biomass industries working
18 together in support of the aforementioned federal legislation;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, the aforementioned legislation received
21 strong bipartisan support, broadly spanning the
22 conservative-progressive political spectrum in both the United
23 States Senate and the United States House of Representatives;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, the Congress and the President are also
26 currently considering enactment of a large-scale federal
27 infrastructure initiative to strengthen our nation's

1 transportation, public works, and energy infrastructure that
2 could also serve as a vehicle for advancing "jobs-ready"
3 carbon capture projects; and

4 WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Department of Energy,
5 "A combination of tax incentives and research, development,
6 demonstration, and deployment (RDD and D) will be critical to
7 developing transformational carbon capture technologies and to
8 driving down the costs of capture"; now therefore,

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF
10 ALABAMA, That we hereby urge the Congress and the President of
11 the United States to enact legislation to expand and extend
12 the current federal tax credit for carbon capture,
13 utilization, and storage under Section 45Q of the Internal
14 Revenue Code; to provide appropriations to the U.S. Department
15 of Energy sufficient to achieve and sustain a robust carbon
16 capture research, development, demonstration, and deployment
17 program; to support the inclusion of economically and
18 environmentally beneficial carbon capture projects in any
19 forthcoming federal infrastructure initiative; to support
20 policies to increase the operational efficiency, and thereby
21 the environmental performance, of existing electric-generating
22 units in the United States; and to support the preservation of
23 a fuel-diverse electric generation portfolio critical to our
24 domestic economic, energy, and national security.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
26 resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States,
27 the Secretary of the United States Department of Energy, the

1 Speaker and Democratic Leader of the United States House of
2 Representatives, the Majority Leader and Democratic Leader of
3 the United States Senate, and to the members of the Alabama
4 Congressional Delegation that they may know of our deep
5 concerns regarding these matters.