

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION on saving coal jobs in the Commonwealth.

WHEREAS, during the past eight years, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) has issued rules and regulations that have adversely impacted many industries through the over-reaching regulation of air, water, and land; and

WHEREAS, this over-reach has been felt most forcefully in the Kentucky coal industry which has suffered unprecedented job losses and put the energy economy of the Commonwealth at risk by making it unprofitable to build coal-fired power plants and to mine and supply coal to those plants; and

WHEREAS, from 2008 to 2013, Kentucky has lost more than 30 percent of coal jobs and 37 percent of power plant jobs which reduces the prosperity of many Kentucky households; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky's low energy rates will increase due to forced fuel-switching to natural gas, which is, in part, due to the policymaking agenda of US EPA funneled through the issuance of rules, regulations, and guidance documents that have no responsiveness to the public or the United States Congress; and

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:

➔Section 1. The Kentucky General Assembly urges the United States Congress to pass legislation to require the US EPA to appear before a congressional committee to discuss any proposed rule or regulation along with any associated guidance document and to require that the committee's approval be a pre-requisite to that rule or regulation becoming effective.

➔Section 2. The provisions of this resolution and Section 1 shall be known as the "Coal Job Savings Resolution."