

As Introduced

**128th General Assembly
Regular Session
2009-2010**

H. C. R. No. 25

Representatives Jordan, Snitchler

**Cosponsors: Representatives Adams, J., Adams, R., Amstutz, Batchelder,
Blair, Bubp, Combs, Evans, Grossman, Hackett, Hall, Huffman, Jones, Maag,
Martin, Morgan, Oelslager, Stautberg, Uecker, Wachtmann, Wagner,
Zehringer**

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge the Congress of the United States to refuse 1
to enact cap and trade legislation that would 2
negatively impact Americans by increasing the 3
costs of goods and services and instead enact 4
legislation that encourages states to establish 5
and develop their own renewable energy portfolio 6
standards. 7

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE
OF OHIO (THE SENATE CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has proposed legislation to 8
the United States Congress to implement a cap and trade emissions 9
trading system that would establish a cap on greenhouse gas 10
emissions, require those who emit greenhouse gases to purchase 11
government credits to offset emissions, and allow those emitters 12
to trade or sell those credits; and 13

WHEREAS, Companies that are required to participate in the 14
cap and trade program will ultimately pass the cost of 15
participation in the program on to consumers. The Congressional 16
Budget Office estimates that price increases resulting from a 15% 17

cut in greenhouse gas emissions would cost the average household 18
between 1.7% to 3.3% of its after-tax income every year, with 19
households in the bottom fifth of the income scale losing the 20
largest share of income; and 21

WHEREAS, The combustion of coal produces more than 50% of the 22
electricity generated in the United States, with Ohio receiving 23
more than 85% of its electricity from coal. Thus, the cap and 24
trade program will result in massive increases in energy costs for 25
all consumers because the cost to produce electricity from coal 26
will be markedly higher. The increased energy costs will 27
disproportionally impact states in the middle part of the United 28
States such as Ohio that are more reliant on coal. The 29
Congressional Budget Office has acknowledged that these increases 30
in energy costs will effectively act as a regressive tax affecting 31
every household in the nation, with a disproportionate effect on 32
poorer families; and 33

WHEREAS, The proposed cap and trade plan will make Ohio less 34
attractive to businesses and further damage Ohio's ability to 35
attract and retain jobs in manufacturing and other sectors of the 36
economy. Ohio needs to position itself as a state that is 37
welcoming to industry and does not act in a manner that is 38
detrimental to its current and future employers; and 39

WHEREAS, The cap and trade program as proposed will result 40
not only in a massive windfall of hundreds of billions of dollars 41
for the federal government through the sale of emissions credits, 42
but also in the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs. The program 43
ultimately will not result in the overall global decrease of 44
greenhouse gas emissions because those industries that emit 45
greenhouse gas, if they are able to do so, will merely relocate to 46
countries with less stringent standards and continue to operate, 47
and those countries are not poised to cap their carbon emissions; 48
and 49

WHEREAS, Any proposed new environmental or energy legislation 50
enacted by Congress should promote and encourage new technologies 51
such as zero-emission advanced nuclear power, biomass energy, fuel 52
cells, and clean coal with carbon capture and sequestration with a 53
goal to bring such technologies to market as quickly as possible. 54
The regulatory, liability, and legal barriers that prevent these 55
technologies from being commercialized and deployed should be 56
addressed before any cap is imposed on greenhouse gas emissions; 57
now therefore be it 58

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 128th General Assembly 59
of the State of Ohio, in adopting this resolution, urge the 60
Congress of the United States to refuse to enact cap and trade 61
legislation that would negatively impact Americans by increasing 62
the costs of goods and services and instead enact legislation that 63
encourages states to establish and develop their own renewable 64
energy portfolio standards; and be it further 65

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 66
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 67
Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, 68
the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States 69
Senate, the members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the 70
news media of Ohio. 71