

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION addressing climate change and economic development.

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION addressing climate change and economic development.

Whereas, the state of Indiana endeavors to achieve a prosperous and sustainable economy that protects the futures of Hoosier children, grandchildren, and generations to come;

Whereas, our world has been greatly challenged by the effects of the current average global warming of 1°C since the Industrial Revolution, including increased and intensifying wildfires, floods, rising seas, diseases, droughts, and extreme weather;

Whereas, numerous agencies organizations, including the American Lung Association, the National Academy of Sciences, and the Department of Defense Quadrennial Defense Review have determined that climate change is a serious risk to life, a threat to justice, and a threat to national security;

Whereas, the impacts of climate change on Indiana's communities, businesses and infrastructure are well documented in Purdue University's Indiana Climate Change Impacts Assessment, including projected impacts by 2050 such as: more frequent heat stress days and a doubling of water deficits will reduce corn yields for current varieties by 16 to 20 percent; livestock productivity and fertility will decline as heat stress events more than double; growing seasons for allergens, like ragweed, will increase by four weeks; the number of days above 95 degrees Fahrenheit will increase, degrading air quality; more extreme precipitation events will increase the rate of soil erosion by 17 to 29 percent; and warmer winters will reduce days available to harvest wood without damaging forest soils;

Whereas, sustainable economic development has the potential to create high-skilled jobs, combat brain drain, decrease consumer energy costs, and enhance workforce development for the state of Indiana while simultaneously mitigating climate change;

Whereas, Indiana's 94,000 farmers have the potential to voluntarily contribute to Indiana's effort to address climate change;

Whereas, an effective and systematic response by the state of Indiana to address climate change and seek economic development will protect the futures of Hoosier children, grandchildren, and generations to come: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly acknowledges the problem of unprecedented climate change.

SECTION 2. That the Indiana General Assembly concurs that Indiana's approach to tackling climate change should seek to capitalize on economic development that will combat brain drain, achieve better workforce development, enhance quality of place, and create jobs for all Hoosiers.

SECTION 3. That the Indiana General Assembly recognizes the potential of policies that provide Hoosier farmers with opportunities and incentives to voluntarily participate in the effort to address climate change.

SECTION 4. That the Indiana General Assembly aims to protect workers and communities that have been or will be affected by changes in the energy industry.

SECTION 5. That the Indiana General Assembly aims to protect all Hoosiers, particularly those most vulnerable to changes in Indiana's climate, through adaptive climate solutions.