

REFERENCE TITLE: supporting renewable energy sources

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-eighth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2008

HCR 2032

Introduced by
Representatives Nelson, Burns J, Mason, Pancrazi, Senators Aguirre, Bee:
Representatives Brown, Weiers JP, Senator Flake

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Whereas, having an affordable, reliable and plentiful energy supply is
2 critical to our economy, as well as our national and international food
3 supply; and

4 Whereas, current and future risks to the United States' energy security
5 are mounting while domestic and global energy demands are growing
6 exponentially; and

7 Whereas, historically, dependence on a single energy source has made
8 the State of Arizona economically and environmentally vulnerable; and

9 Whereas, the State of Arizona has highly limited fossil energy sources
10 and is subject to fluctuations of imported energy products; and

11 Whereas, transport fuels for automobiles, trucks, aviation and other
12 vehicles are major users of fossil fuels; and

13 Whereas, clean air is a priority for this state; and

14 Whereas, Arizona currently has the capacity to develop and produce
15 renewable energy sources; and

16 Whereas, Arizona lacks the infrastructure to facilitate the consumption
17 of these renewable energies that are developed and manufactured in state; and

18 Whereas, Arizona has previously expressed its support through
19 legislation for the development of renewable energies; and

20 Whereas, the dwindling fossil fuel supplies can be supplemented with
21 various renewable energy sources, including agriculturally produced biofuels
22 and biomass, photovoltaics and nuclear, wind, geothermal and hydroelectric
23 power; and

24 Whereas, the technological advancement and workforce development by
25 statewide public institutions would enhance the employment and retention of
26 Arizona citizens with scientific and technical expertise; and

27 Whereas, the technological advancements at research facilities such as
28 the Center for Bioenergy and Photosynthesis at Arizona State University would
29 improve the efficiency of agricultural productivity and early distribution of
30 resultant commercial products to Arizona's energy growers; and

31 Whereas, Arizona and the West have tremendous renewable energy
32 resources; and

33 Whereas, the development of a broad spectrum of renewable energy
34 sources, including wind power, biodiesel, biomass, methane digesters, ethanol
35 and solar, benefits the environment and will have a direct economic benefit
36 to rural communities; and

37 Whereas, rural communities and agricultural sectors will experience
38 multiple benefits, including establishing additional markets for agricultural
39 commodities, increasing farm income, creating added-value uses for crops,
40 livestock and their byproducts, more productive use of marginal lands, the
41 resolution of air, water and soil quality problem, improving wildlife habitat
42 and creating many new job opportunities; and

1 Whereas, solar and wind energy can be captured on the vast land areas
2 managed by United States agriculture, and technology and production
3 capabilities allow America's farmers and ranchers to play a major role in
4 ensuring a fully sustainable United States energy system; and

5 Whereas, American agriculture is well positioned to play an expanded
6 role in the development and implementation of new energy solutions, and with
7 appropriate technological innovation, incentives and investments, America's
8 farms and ranches can become the factories that produce a new generation of
9 fuels to help meet the nation's energy needs; and

10 Whereas, "25 by 25" is a nationally led initiative that envisions
11 America's farms and ranches producing 25 percent of America's energy demand
12 by the year 2025 while continuing to produce abundant, safe and affordable
13 food and fiber; and

14 Whereas, agriculture's role as an energy producer will have a positive
15 effect on national security and trade imbalances and will serve as a catalyst
16 for rural development in Arizona.

17 Therefore

18 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the
19 Senate concurring:

20 1. That the Members of the Legislature strongly support the vision of
21 "25 by 25", whereby agriculture will provide 25 percent of the total energy
22 consumed in the United States by the year 2025, while continuing to produce
23 abundant, safe and affordable food and fiber.

24 2. That the Members of the Legislature strongly encourage the
25 development and production of renewable energies by Arizona's businesses and
26 public institutions.

27 3. That the Members of the Legislature encourage manufacturing plants
28 to produce energies with minimal waste and low negative impact on the
29 environment.

30 4. That the Members of the Legislature encourage the enhancement of
31 Arizona's infrastructure to facilitate the consumption of these renewable
32 energies.

33 5. That the Members of the Legislature encourage state government and
34 political subdivisions to actively replace fossil fuels they consume with
35 Arizona-produced fuels.

36 6. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies
37 of this Resolution to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker
38 of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress
39 from the State of Arizona.