

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 1198

Sponsors: Representative Saunders.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

April 13, 2005

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO
2 PROVIDE FOR A DOMESTIC ENERGY POLICY THAT WILL ENSURE AN
3 ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF NATURAL GAS WHILE PROMOTING ECONOMIC
4 AND NATIONAL SECURITY FOR THE BENEFIT OF FUTURE
5 GENERATIONS OF AMERICANS.

6 Whereas, high and volatile prices for natural gas are negatively affecting
7 North Carolina's businesses and manufacturers, contributing to industrial plant closings,
8 higher unemployment, and underemployment rates; and

9 Whereas, more than 60 million American consumers, including more than
10 one million North Carolinians, have chosen to rely on natural gas, which is the most
11 environmentally friendly fossil fuel, for safe, reliable heat and hot water; and

12 Whereas, wholesale natural gas prices have more than doubled over the last
13 five years, creating an "energy tax" of more than \$66 billion each year on America's
14 natural gas consumers; and

15 Whereas, the natural gas imbalance is exacerbated by artificial restrictions in
16 development and drilling and by governmental policies that increase demand for natural
17 gas while impeding the development of a greater supply by discouraging domestic
18 exploration and production; and

19 Whereas, national energy legislation is long overdue; and

20 Whereas, the most critical cornerstone of the legislation must be to encourage
21 increased exploration and production efforts for domestic natural gas supplies; and

22 Whereas, utilizing sound environmental stewardship principles, new
23 abundant natural gas frontiers can be developed to meet demand; Now, therefore,

24 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

25 **SECTION 1.** The North Carolina House of Representatives urges the United
26 States Congress to enact legislation in the 109th Congress providing for a domestic
27 energy policy that will ensure an adequate supply of natural gas, including developing
28 the appropriate infrastructure, and that will embrace a concerted national effort to
29 promote greater energy efficiency, producing a political consensus that will open
30 promising new areas for environmentally responsible natural gas production.

1 **SECTION 2.** The Principal Clerk shall transmit certified copies of this
2 resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of
3 the United States Senate, and the members of the North Carolina Congressional
4 Delegation.

5 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.