

House Concurrent Resolution No. 38

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES PHILLIPS (Sponsor), MILLER, SHULL, SCHIEBER, REMOLE,
RHOADS, POGUE, ROSS, ROWLAND AND WOOD (Co-sponsors).

6208H.011

2 **WHEREAS**, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is overstepping
3 its jurisdictional boundaries regarding the regulation of water quality and the use of coal and
4 wood as energy sources in Missouri; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the EPA refuses to allow the practice of blending as related to municipal
6 waste water treatment plants in 55 of Missouri's municipalities, which is estimated to cost our
7 state \$650 to \$700 million dollars; and

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9 **WHEREAS**, on August 22, 2013, the EPA finalized water quality criteria for ammonia
10 as a result of toxicity studies of mussels; and

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12 **WHEREAS**, only 2 of the 69 species of mussels in Missouri would be affected by the
13 new criteria, yet the EPA forces the extreme ammonia standards on the state anyway; and

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15 **WHEREAS**, nearly all discharging domestic waste water treatment facilities as well as
16 certain industrial and storm water dischargers with ammonia in their effluent cannot meet the
17 new ammonia standards with current, reasonably priced technology; and

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19 **WHEREAS**, the estimated cost to Missourians to comply with the new ammonia
20 standards is \$1 billion dollars; and

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22 **WHEREAS**, a reliable, affordable energy supply is vital to the nation's future economic
23 growth, security, and quality of life; and

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25 **WHEREAS**, domestically produced coal has been and continues to be used as a fuel to
26 produce over 80 percent of the electricity generated by the state's investor-owned electric
27 utilities, municipally owned utilities, and rural electric cooperatives; and

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29 **WHEREAS**, the state's heavy reliance on coal as a fuel source for Missouri's base-load
30 electric generation is due primarily to coal being abundant, available, reliable, and comparatively
31 much less expensive than virtually all other available fuels; and

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33 **WHEREAS**, the EPA has issued proposed rules and regulations for new fossil fuel-fired
34 power plants and is expected to issue its proposed rules and regulations for existing fossil fuel-
35 fired power plants by June 1, 2014, with implementation by June 2015; and

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37 **WHEREAS**, the EPA's proposed regulations for new power plants would require all
38 new coal-fired power plants to utilize carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology, otherwise
39 known as "sequestration", to capture and store carbon dioxide underground in order to meet the
40 EPA's new stringent emission limits, even though such sequestration technology is not yet
41 economical or even widely commercially available; and

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43 **WHEREAS**, stricter emission standards imposed by the EPA on Missouri's coal-fired
44 electric power plants will translate into higher electric costs that necessarily must be paid for by
45 all Missouri consumers, either directly in higher electric rates or indirectly through higher costs
46 for other goods and services; and

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48 **WHEREAS**, the recent spike in propane gas prices should remind us that we need to
49 safeguard our readily available and cost-effective resources; and

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51 **WHEREAS**, the use of other forms of renewable energy should be encouraged, but not
52 demanded and not by eliminating proven, time-tested resources; and

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54 **WHEREAS**, the EPA is also proposing new source performance standards for residential
55 wood heaters by reducing maximum fine particulate emissions from 15 micrograms per cubic
56 meter of air to 12 micrograms per cubic meter of air; and

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58 **WHEREAS**, the proposed new source performance standards would apply to new wood
59 stoves and other wood heaters, requiring manufacturers, many of which are small businesses, to
60 implement costly changes to their manufacturing process and products; and

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62 **WHEREAS**, most wood stoves and other wood heaters are sold for use in rural, cold
63 climate areas where wood is readily available and the consumption of wood for residential
64 purposes is highest in the Midwest; and

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66 **WHEREAS**, over 97,000 homes in Missouri used wood as their home heating fuel in
67 2012; and

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69 **WHEREAS**, wood is the most accessible and affordable renewable energy resource for
70 home heating; and

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72 **WHEREAS**, the net carbon dioxide emissions from wood are far below those of all other
73 fuels; and

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75 **WHEREAS**, wood heating strengthens local economies, including providing jobs and
76 incomes, since wood can be purchased locally and the money stays in the community versus
77 purchasing natural gas or petroleum fuels from outside the community; and
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79 **WHEREAS**, the cost of a new wood stove or other wood heater, which would meet the
80 EPA's proposed new source performance standards, would be cost-prohibitive for many rural
81 Missourians who rely on wood stoves as their residential heating source; and
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83 **WHEREAS**, each state has different resources and needs and should be permitted the
84 maximum flexibility and discretion in implementing policies and regulations regarding its natural
85 resources:
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87 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
88 Representatives of the Ninety-seventh General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
89 concurring therein, hereby urge the United States Congress to decrease the EPA's authority to
90 regulate water quality and the use of coal and wood as energy sources; and
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92 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
93 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the
94 Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, the
95 Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, and each member of the Missouri
96 Congressional delegation.

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