
By: Delegate Guns

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 1997

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 19, 1997

RESOLUTION NO.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION _____

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Particulate Matter - National Ambient Air Quality Standards**

3 FOR the purpose of urging the United States Environmental Protection Agency to ~~retain~~
4 ~~and reaffirm the existing National Ambient Air Quality Standards for particulate~~
5 ~~matter and to~~ conduct additional research prior to ~~issuing~~ requiring revised plans
6 for the implementation of a new particulate matter standard or ~~revising a review of~~
7 the existing particulate matter standard.

8 WHEREAS, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a responsibility
9 to review periodically the National Ambient Air Quality ~~Standard~~ Standards (NAAQS)
10 for particulate matter (PM) to ascertain if the NAAQS are sufficiently protective of
11 human health; and

12 WHEREAS, The EPA has proposed new standards for ~~PM 2.5~~ particulate matter,
13 including ~~adding separate standards for a new~~ PM 2.5 standard; and

14 WHEREAS, States, through their citizens, legislative bodies, and regulatory
15 agencies, have had success in reducing air pollution and meeting existing clean air
16 requirements; and

17 WHEREAS, The ~~new~~ implementation of the proposed PM 2.5 standard could have
18 significant impacts on citizens, businesses, and local governments in many states by
19 substantially expanding clean air requirements; and

20 WHEREAS, EPA is proposing significant new monitoring requirements to
21 determine whether and where there is a problem with respect to the proposed new
22 standard for particulate matter; and

23 WHEREAS, There is ~~substantial scientific~~ uncertainty about ~~whether the~~
24 implication of tightening controls on PM 2.5 ~~or ozone would provide any significant~~

1 ~~health benefits, while the costs of tightening controls on PM 2.5 and ozone would~~
2 ~~assuredly standard could be high; now, therefore, be it~~

3 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the State
4 of Maryland ~~supports the existing PM 10 standard and~~ supports the EPA conducting
5 additional PM 2.5 monitoring and scientific research to address the issue of causality and
6 other unanswered questions before ~~considering~~ requiring revision of the plan for
7 implementation of a new PM 2.5 standard ~~or a revised PM 10 standard~~; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the State of Maryland respectfully urges the EPA to identify any
9 unfunded mandates or other administrative and economic burdens for state or local
10 governments or agencies and identify the impact on small businesses and citizens of the
11 State due to modifications of the NAAQS for particulate matter; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
13 Legislative Reference to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S.
14 Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and
15 Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin, Albert
16 R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E. Cummings, and Constance
17 A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; President William J.
18 Clinton, Executive Office of the President, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.,
19 Washington, D.C. 20500; and Carol M. Browner, Administrator, Environmental
20 Protection Agency, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460.