

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 25

Unofficial Copy
C5

2000 Regular Session
0lr3041

By: **Delegate Hutchins**

Introduced and read first time: February 25, 2000

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Escalating Oil and Gasoline Prices**

3 FOR the purpose of urging the President of the United States to call on the
4 governments of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to intercede with the Organization of
5 Petroleum Exporting Countries leaders and other oil producing countries such
6 as Mexico to achieve a more stable worldwide crude oil market; and calling on
7 the United State Congress to support any legislation that might result from or
8 assist in that intercession and that would assist the United States in influencing
9 OPEC decisions involving the production, exportation, and pricing of crude oil.

10 WHEREAS, The citizens of the United States and other countries around the
11 world are faced with ever-increasing oil prices, which are currently at a 9-year high;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The recent increases in oil prices are taking a toll on the entire
14 world population, particularly because they have occurred during the winter months;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, There has been an erratic fluctuation in the price of crude oil
17 during the last year which carried the barrel cost from \$10.72 in December 1998 to
18 \$30.25 per barrel on February 14, 2000; and

19 WHEREAS, Economic analysts believe that the resulting increases in the prices
20 of heating oil and gasoline may in turn cause inflation and an economic slowdown;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, These escalating prices can have serious worldwide ramifications
23 among major industries that rely on refined oil products to fuel their businesses; and

24 WHEREAS, The United States has enjoyed a close relationship with the
25 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Kuwait by maintaining a significant
26 military presence in the region since the Gulf War and it is in the best interest of that
27 region and the world to have consistent and predictable amounts of crude oil entering
28 the market at all times; now, therefore, be it

29 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the United
30 States President William Jefferson Clinton is respectfully urged to call on the

1 governments of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and intercede with the Organization of
2 Petroleum Exporting Countries leaders and other oil producing countries such as
3 Mexico to achieve a more stable worldwide crude oil market; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Congress of the United States is respectfully urged to
5 support any legislation that might result from or assist in that intercession and that
6 would assist the United States in influencing OPEC decisions involving the
7 production, exportation, and pricing of crude oil; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Department of
9 Legislative Services to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of
10 each chamber of the United States Congress, and the following members of the
11 Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S. Sarbanes and Barbara A.
12 Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives
13 Wayne T. Gilchrest, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin, Albert R. Wynn, Steny
14 Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E. Cummings, and Constance A. Morella,
15 House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.