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By: **Senator Stone**
Constitutional Requirements Complied with for Introduction in the last 35 Days of
Session
Introduced and read first time: March 21, 2006
Rules suspended
Assigned to: Finance

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Construction of a Liquefied Natural Gas Terminal and Pipeline at the**
3 **Former Sparrows Point Shipyard in Baltimore County - Disapproval by**
4 **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

5 FOR the purpose of urging the Maryland Congressional Delegation to take immediate
6   and appropriate steps to ensure that the construction of a liquefied natural gas
7   terminal and pipeline at the former Sparrows Point shipyard in Baltimore
8   County is rejected.

9   WHEREAS, The Virginia-based AES Corporation has submitted a proposal to
10 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for the Commission's approval of
11 the construction of a liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal and pipeline at the former
12 Sparrows Point shipyard in Baltimore County; and

13   WHEREAS, While the General Assembly recognizes the need for LNG terminals
14 because of the rising consumption of natural gas and that FERC is currently
15 reviewing plans for a number of additional LNG facilities throughout the nation, the
16 General Assembly is deeply concerned about the potential dangers of constructing an
17 LNG terminal and pipeline in a location in eastern Baltimore County that is part of a
18 metropolitan area with a population of 2.6 million and close to residential
19 neighborhoods; and

20   WHEREAS, In 1944, a spill from an LNG storage facility in Cleveland, Ohio
21 caused a fire and explosion that killed 128 people, and in 1979, the failure of a pump
22 seal led to a fatal fire at the Cove Point LNG terminal in Calvert County; and

23   WHEREAS, We are also seriously concerned about the threat that terrorism - a
24 threat that cannot be dismissed as unrealistic - poses to the safety and security of an
25 LNG terminal and pipeline located so closely to the Baltimore Metropolitan area; and

26   WHEREAS, The economic renewal of eastern Baltimore County of recent years
27 is a welcome and long overdue reality, but the presence of an LNG facility at Sparrows
28 Point could interfere with that renewal by discouraging other industrial jobs from

1 locating there and hampering the revival of surrounding residential neighborhoods;
2 and

3   WHEREAS, The residents of eastern Baltimore County have strongly expressed
4 their opposition to the location of an LNG facility at the former Sparrows Point
5 shipyard, and Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, Governor Ehrlich, the County
6 Executive, James T. Smith, Jr., and all local officials have also publicly stated their
7 objections to the proposal; now, therefore, be it

8   RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
9 General Assembly urges the Maryland Congressional Delegation to take immediate
10 and appropriate steps to ensure that the proposed construction of a terminal and
11 pipeline for liquefied natural gas at the former Sparrows Point shipyard in Baltimore
12 County is rejected and does not move forward in any manner at that location; and be
13 it further

14   RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
15 Legislative Services to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S.
16 Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510;
17 and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger III, Benjamin L.
18 Cardin, Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E.
19 Cummings, and Christopher Van Hollen, Jr., House Office Building, Washington,
20 D.C. 20515; and be it further

21   RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
22 Legislative Services to the Honorable Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor of Maryland;
23 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
24 the Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates.