

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 268

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that no new energy taxes or fees should be imposed on the American public for the purposes of complying with the global warming treaty.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 9, 1997

Mr. PAXON (for himself, Mr. McHUGH, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. EWING, Mr. NEUMANN, Mr. HERGER, Mrs. EMERSON, and Mr. THORNBERRY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that no new energy taxes or fees should be imposed on the American public for the purposes of complying with the global warming treaty.

Whereas in 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, the United States agreed to take voluntary steps toward reducing emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000;

Whereas the administration is working toward an agreement on the global warming treaty to be signed in December of 1997 in Kyoto, Japan, to reduce “greenhouse gases”;

Whereas the Clinton administration currently has under consideration a plan which, through the imposition of new

energy taxes and fees, intends to reduce carbon usage and thereby resulting carbon emissions;

Whereas the imposition of regressive energy taxes to comply with the treaty would be devastating to the American taxpayer, our growing economy, and employment;

Whereas decreasing “greenhouse gases” by 20 percent in the year 2010 could require an increase in the Btu tax 5 times greater than that proposed in 1993;

Whereas a tax increase of \$200 per ton of carbon could result in—

(1) a 60 cent increase per gallon in the cost of gasoline;

(2) a 50 percent increase in the cost of most fuels used for residential and commercial heating;

(3) a 4.2 percent reduction, or \$350,000,000,000 per year, in United States gross domestic product by 2010; and

(4) a job loss of 1,100,000 in 2010 and 600,000 annually through 2020;

Whereas gasoline and fuel taxes are regressive and less affluent Americans must spend a greater proportion of their income to pay those taxes than do more affluent Americans;

Whereas additional or increased fees for energy producers and suppliers, instead of directly increasing taxes on the American taxpayer, would require increased costs to the taxpayer for home heating and cooling; and

Whereas many Americans now working toward achieving and maintaining economic stability will be placed at financial risk through new energy taxes, including seniors living on fixed incomes, single parent families with children, recently employed former welfare recipients, working students trying to finance their education, and others: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that no new energy taxes or fees should be
3 imposed by the Clinton administration on the American
4 public for the purposes of complying with the global warm-
5 ing treaty.

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