



Introduced Version

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**HOUSE  
RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_**

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*Introduced by: Wolkins, Beumer*

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A HOUSE RESOLUTION urging the United States Environmental Protection Agency to retain existing ozone standards.

*Whereas, The Indiana House of Representatives supports the adoption of federal National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) that are protective of human health, public welfare, and the environment, and believes that the standards must be supported by compelling scientific evidence;*

*Whereas, There have been few new health studies published since the last ozone standards were promulgated in 2008 showing compelling evidence that lowering the NAAQS for ozone would have significant beneficial results; rather, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has relied on*

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*outdated, nonpeer reviewed data to support the new proposal;*

*Whereas, Indiana has successfully reduced emissions and lowered ozone levels over the last 20 years, so much so that only two counties in Indiana remain nonattainment areas;*

*Whereas, In 2014 Indiana adopted the lower federal ozone standard of .75ppm, which has not been fully implemented;*

*Whereas, The states should be given the opportunity to implement the current standard before the United States Environmental Protection Agency lowers the standard again;*

*Whereas, The United States Environmental Protection Agency has proposed a new NAAQS range for ozone levels that is so low as to be approaching or to be below background levels in many areas of the country and in several rural areas in Indiana;*

*Whereas, The United States Environmental Protection Agency's proposed ozone levels could push virtually the entire country and all 92 Indiana counties into "nonattainment areas";*

*Whereas, Indiana counties likely impacted by the proposed standards are responsible for manufacturing, natural resources, and construction jobs that contribute millions of dollars to Indiana's GDP;*

*Whereas, Areas designated "nonattainment" face a cascade of harmful impacts for local economies. As state and local officials must seek emissions reductions from cars, fuels, consumers, and commercial activity, nonattainment areas could lose jobs and tax revenue to neighboring locales that are in attainment. Federal highway and transit funding could be at risk, because projects must conform with state implementation plans. With standards approaching background levels, compliance tools do not exist to bring many areas into compliance. Small businesses such as gas stations, bakeries, printing operations, dry cleaners, auto body shops, and small manufacturers will be directly affected. Economic growth will be halted until existing businesses close or reduce operations*



*to offset new growth and jobs;*

*Whereas, The economic hardship resulting from the United States Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to the American worker is real and immediate while the benefits are unverified and uncertain; and*

*Whereas, The science does not support a change in these standards, and the current standard protects public health with an adequate margin of safety: Therefore,*

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives supports
- 2 retention of the current National Ambient Air Quality Standard for the
- 3 primary and secondary ozone standard.
- 4 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
- 5 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to each member of
- 6 the Indiana Congressional Delegation and the Administrator of the
- 7 United States Environmental Protection Agency.

