
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8000

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Senators Shin, Kastama, Fairley, Kauffman, Marr, Murray, Spanel, Oemig, Franklin, Keiser, Kohl-Welles, Berkey, Hobbs, Pridemore, Kline and Tom

Read first time 01/11/2007. Referred to Committee on Water, Energy & Telecommunications.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Asian dust storms have been occurring for centuries; and
9 WHEREAS, Population growth has lead to overfarming, overgrazing,
10 and deforestation, which has contributed to desertification in Mongolia
11 and China; and

12 WHEREAS, Desertification has lead to increasing frequency and
13 intensity of Asian dust storms in the last decade; and

14 WHEREAS, Many Asian countries are rapidly industrializing with
15 factories, power plants, and automobiles that emit air pollutants; and

16 WHEREAS, These pollutants are swept up in Asian dust storms and
17 carried across the Pacific Ocean into Washington State; and

18 WHEREAS, Air pollutants can aggravate asthma, cause increased
19 problems for individuals who have had a heart attack, angina, coronary

1 artery disease, congestive heart failure, asthma, emphysema, chronic
2 bronchitis, or cystic fibrosis respiratory disease, and may cause
3 cancer and neurological and reproductive disorders; and

4 WHEREAS, Washington State has one of the highest rates of asthma in
5 the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, Washington State is a leader in promoting clean air
7 technology to protect public health; and

8 WHEREAS, The University of Washington and Oregon State University
9 monitor air quality at Cheeka Peak Observatory in Neah Bay and at Mt.
10 Batchelor Observatory, Oregon; and

11 WHEREAS, Airborne pollution from Asia is detected at Cheeka Peak
12 and Mt. Batchelor Observatories and other monitoring stations in the
13 United States; and

14 WHEREAS, Airborne pollution from Asia contributes to air pollution
15 in Washington State and may cause health problems for some people; and

16 WHEREAS, The United States Environmental Protection Agency National
17 Center for Environmental Research's mission is supporting high quality
18 research by the nation's leading scientist to improve the scientific
19 basis for decisions on national environmental issues and to help the
20 Environmental Protection Agency achieve its goals; and

21 WHEREAS, The National Center for Environmental Research funds
22 research grants and graduate fellowship opportunities for environmental
23 science and engineering disciplines through its Science to Achieve
24 Results or STAR; and

25 WHEREAS, The United States Environmental Protection Agency provided
26 funding to the National Center for Environmental Research's STAR
27 program for observations of global atmospheric transport of pollution
28 that is no longer available;

29 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United
30 States government restore funding to the National Center for
31 Environmental Research's STAR program for the purposes of providing
32 research grant opportunities to study and make observations of
33 atmospheric transport of global pollution sources.

34 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
35 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
36 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the

1 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
2 Washington.

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