
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4024

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Representatives VanDeWege, Hailey, B. Sullivan, Morris, Hudgins, Chase, Linville, Takko, McCoy, Haler, McCune, Schindler, Crouse and Buri

Read first time 04/18/2007. Referred to Committee on Technology, Energy & Communications.

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, THE SECRETARY OF THE UNITED
5 STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE MIKE JOHANNIS, THE SECRETARY OF THE
6 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SAMUEL W. BODMAN, GOVERNOR CHRISTINE
7 O. GREGOIRE, THE WASHINGTON STATE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS DOUG
8 SUTHERLAND, THE DIRECTOR OF THE WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
9 AGRICULTURE VALORIA H. LOVELAND, AND TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE WASHINGTON
10 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY, TRADE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT JULI
11 WILKERSON:

12 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
13 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
14 represent and petition as follows:

15 WHEREAS, Having an affordable, reliable, and plentiful energy
16 supply is critical to our economy, as well as our national and
17 international food supply; and

18 WHEREAS, Current and future risks to United States energy security
19 are mounting while domestic and global energy demands are growing
20 exponentially; and

1 WHEREAS, Washington state and the West have tremendous renewable
2 energy resources; and

3 WHEREAS, The development of a broad spectrum of renewable energy
4 sources, including wind power, biodiesel, biomass, methane digesters,
5 ethanol, and solar, benefits the environment and will have a direct
6 economic benefit to agricultural landowners and rural communities; and

7 WHEREAS, Rural communities and agriculture sectors will experience
8 multiple benefits, including establishing additional markets for
9 agricultural commodities; increasing farm income; creating value-added
10 uses for crops, livestock, and their byproducts; making more productive
11 use of marginal lands; resolving air, water, and soil quality problems
12 that may arise from agricultural operations; improving wildlife
13 habitat; and creating many new job opportunities; and

14 WHEREAS, Solar and wind energy can be captured on the vast land
15 areas managed by United States agriculture, and technology and
16 production capabilities allow America's farmers and ranchers to play a
17 major role in ensuring a fully sustainable United States energy system;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, American agriculture and forestry are well-positioned to
20 play an expanded role in the development and implementation of new
21 energy solutions and with appropriate technological innovation,
22 incentives, and investments, America's farms, forests, and ranches can
23 become the factories that produce a new generation of fuels to help
24 meet the nation's energy needs; and

25 WHEREAS, "25 by '25" is an agriculturally led initiative that
26 envisions America's farms, forests, and ranches producing twenty-five
27 percent of the total energy consumed in America by the year 2025 while
28 continuing to produce abundant, safe, and affordable food and fiber;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, Agriculture's role as an energy producer will have a
31 positive effect on national security and trade imbalances, and will
32 serve as a catalyst for rural development in Washington state;

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Your Memorialists support the
34 vision of "25 by '25" whereby agriculture and forestry will provide
35 twenty-five percent of the total energy consumed in the United States
36 by the year 2025, while continuing to produce abundant, safe, and
37 affordable food and fiber.

1 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
2 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
3 States, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture
4 Mike Johanns, the Secretary of the United States Department of Energy
5 Samuel W. Bodman, Governor Christine O. Gregoire, the Washington State
6 Commissioner of Public Lands Doug Sutherland, the Director of the
7 Washington State Department of Agriculture Valoria H. Loveland, and to
8 the Director of the Washington Department of Community, Trade, and
9 Economic Development Juli Wilkerson, the President of the United States
10 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of
11 Congress from the State of Washington.

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