

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capital Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002-4290

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FEDERAL AND STATE CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Board of Directors adopted R31-07 at its April 11, 2007 meeting stating that reducing greenhouse gases is necessary for insuring the National Capital Region's economic and environmental sustainability and high quality of life; and

WHEREAS, R31-07 authorized creation of a Climate Change Steering Committee and gave it the responsibility to make recommendations to the COG Board of Directors on regional climate change policies, best practices, and potential advocacy positions on federal, state and local climate change actions and proposals; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress and several states are considering legislation to require limits on greenhouse gas emissions, consistent with the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; and

WHEREAS, federal proposals to reduce greenhouse gases do not recognize the important role of local governments and regional entities in effectuating, requiring, and promoting greenhouse gas reduction from buildings, mobile sources, local businesses and citizens – and in responding to and planning for changes that may occur as a result of climate change – and further do not provide local governments and regional entities funding to carry out these responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, COG is collaborating with other organizations, including the National Association of Regional Councils, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the Northeast Midwest Institute, and Climate Communities to advance the role of local governments and regions in addressing climate change and advocating for greater federal support for local and regional activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:

1. COG supports the goals of proposed federal climate change legislation, which may include, *inter alia*, cap-and-trade mechanisms, to limit greenhouse gas emissions from major sources consistent with scientific recommendations to achieve climate stabilization.
2. COG affirms the leadership of local governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and regional entities, in developing and implementing programs to reduce greenhouse gases from the built environment, energy and transportations sectors, and in eliciting individual citizen and business action to cut greenhouse gas emissions, and calls on Congress to provide adequate funding to local governments and regional entities to fulfill their role in addressing this global concern.
4. COG supports funding for local governments and regional entities that enables planning for and adapting to anticipated consequences resulting from climate change.
5. COG affirms the need to provide financial assistance to low income groups and other vulnerable populations to cushion the hardship that may result from climate change legislation and to support employment transition activities and "green collar" job training.
6. COG asserts that federal legislation should not pre-empt the ability of any state or local government to implement stricter, necessary and appropriate standards or policies.

7. The Chair of the Board shall transmit this resolution to the President of the United States and the leadership of the United States Congress, the Governors and Legislatures of Maryland and Virginia legislatures, and the Mayor and Council of the District of Columbia.

Copy Teste:

Nicole Hange
Board Clerk