

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 17

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator LORETTA WEINBERG

District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Urges Governor to impose moratorium on fossil fuel projects.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



SR17 WEINBERG

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1 **A SENATE RESOLUTION** urging the Governor to impose a
2 moratorium on fossil fuel projects.

3

4 **WHEREAS**, Climate change is threatening present and future
5 generations with severe economic and environmental
6 consequences; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Emerging evidence indicates that growth in greenhouse
8 gas levels leads to climate change, with rising temperatures
9 resulting in higher sea levels and associated coastal flooding, more
10 frequent wildfires, longer periods of drought, and an increase in the
11 number and intensity of storms; and

12 **WHEREAS**, A greenhouse gas is an atmospheric gas that slows the
13 rate at which heat radiates into space resulting in a warming effect
14 on the earth's temperature; and

15 **WHEREAS**, The extraction and combustion of fossil fuels, which
16 includes coal, oil, and natural gas, are significant sources of
17 greenhouse gas emissions and major contributors to climate change;
18 and

19 **WHEREAS**, Unlike energy generated from fossil fuels, renewable
20 energy generated from renewable sources such as sunlight, wind,
21 and rain, does not produce greenhouse gas emissions and is often
22 described as "clean energy" because of its minimal impact on the
23 environment; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Governor Murphy's draft Energy Master Plan sets a goal
25 to provide 100 percent clean energy in the State of New Jersey by
26 2050, however, the plan does not address the existing and proposed
27 numerous fossil fuel infrastructure projects, such as pipelines and
28 power plants in the State; and

29 **WHEREAS**, In order to meet the State's clean energy goal by 2050 an
30 immediate moratorium on all fossil fuel infrastructure projects
31 should be imposed until the State adopts a plan to meet this goal;
32 now, therefore,

33

34 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

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36 1. This House urges the Governor to impose an immediate
37 moratorium on fossil fuel infrastructure projects until the State
38 adopts rules regulating CO2 and other climate pollutants adequate
39 to achieve the 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
40 from 2006 levels by 2050 as required under the Global Warming
41 Response Act.

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43 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
44 shall be transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the Governor
45 and Lieutenant Governor of the State of New Jersey.

1 STATEMENT

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3 Global climate change is threatening present and future
4 generations with severe economic and environmental consequences.
5 Emerging evidence indicates that growth in greenhouse gas levels
6 leads to climate change, with rising temperatures resulting in higher
7 sea levels and associated coastal flooding, more frequent wildfires,
8 longer periods of drought, and an increase in the number and
9 intensity of storms.

10 Governor Murphy's draft Energy Master Plan sets a goal to
11 provide 100 percent clean energy in the State of New Jersey by
12 2050, however, the plan does not address the existing and proposed
13 numerous fossil fuel infrastructure projects, such as pipelines and
14 power plants in the State.