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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 338

Offered January 10, 2013

Recognizing the need for regulatory agencies in the Commonwealth to use administrative discretion to reduce the burdens placed upon the coal and electricity-generation industries by the regulations recently adopted by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Patron—Martin

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has made the determination that the methane being emitted from coal mines should be treated as a stack emission and, therefore, that the EPA should require coal mines to obtain air pollution permits; and

WHEREAS, the EPA has proposed New Source Performance Standards that would impose control upon greenhouse gas emissions from coal-fired utilities, including in some cases the requirement that the utility install carbon capture and storage equipment; and

WHEREAS, the EPA has promulgated Mercury and Air Toxics Standards that will require the installation of expensive air pollution controls, as well as potentially requiring the shutdown of some coal-fired utilities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly recognize the need for regulatory agencies in the Commonwealth to use administrative discretion to reduce the burden placed upon the coal and electricity-generation industries by the regulations recently adopted by the Environmental Protection Agency; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, and the Virginia State Corporation Commission in order that the members of those agencies may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter during their deliberations.

INTRODUCED

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