

Global Warming Resolution

Whereas, the world's leading climate scientists, through the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), have concluded "that the balance of evidence suggests a discernible human influence on global climate".

Whereas, the IPCC and other scientific bodies have warned that continued uncontrolled emissions of greenhouse gases could cause damage to our public health, economy, and environment due to:

- (1) shifts in agricultural productivity that could threaten local and regional food supplies;
- (2) an intensified hydrological cycle resulting in regional increases in extreme precipitation, flooding, and droughts;
- (3) severe declines in the biological diversity of our forests, fisheries, wildlife, and water resources due to shifts in climate; and
- (4) rise in sea level which could devastate coastal areas through destruction of sensitive beaches, flooding of barrier islands, coastal wetlands and farmland, increased damage from storm tides, and salt-water intrusion into rivers and other freshwater bodies;

Whereas, global warming is now recognized by National Audubon Society as the single greatest long-term threat to all Birds, Wildlife and Habitat. It is predicted that it will cause:

- (1) extinction of 15-50% of all species by 2050
- (2) extinction of 40% of all endemic species by 2050
- (3) 40% of land use will not be able to sustain its current ecosystems

Whereas, increased reliance on advanced technologies will produce additional benefits for the United States, such as expansion of our role as a leading exporter of renewable energy technologies and reduction in our dependency on foreign oil and balance of trade deficit.

Whereas, alternative energy sources, when properly sited to protect birds, wildlife, and habitat, will provide alternatives to our fossil fuel based economy.

Whereas, climate change is an issue of global significance and can be addressed adequately only through multilateral action.

Therefore, be it

Resolved, the United States should adopt a clear national policy to proactively reduce the threat of global warming.

Resolved, the United States should adopt quantitative domestic reduction targets for all greenhouse gases with a credible system to measure emissions and track progress.

Resolved, economic incentives as well as mandates should be used to achieve the reduction targets.

Resolved, increased research and implementation of safe and cleaner technology and energy production will help achieve these targets.

Resolved, The United States should assume a global leadership position to address this threat to human and ecosystem health.

Resolved, Local and State governments should take aggressive actions on their own or with regions. The cumulative impact of many actions will make a difference in both combating global warming and creating political demand for action.

Resolved, Audubon chapters should engage their members and federal, state and local decision makers in reducing carbon emission.