

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 16

## 92<sup>ND</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1394L.011

**Whereas**, Missouri state government is experiencing a budget crisis; and

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**Whereas**, state government programs are being evaluated, and wasteful, ineffective, and costly programs are being eliminated; and

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**Whereas**, the vehicle emissions testing program for the St. Louis area, known as the Gateway Clean Air Program, expends considerable resources in testing vehicles shown to have clean emissions, fails few grossly polluting vehicles, and is therefore of questionable effectiveness in reducing air pollution; and

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**Whereas**, the Gateway Clean Air Program is wasteful and costly for the citizens of St. Louis City and St. Louis, St. Charles, Jefferson, and Franklin Counties, the vast majority of whom own vehicles with clean emissions; and

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**Whereas**, Environmental Systems Products, Inc., is not sufficiently accountable to the Department of Natural Resources or to the citizens whose money and time are expended for this questionable program; and

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**Whereas**, many states, including New Jersey, Colorado, Arizona, Minnesota, Texas, and Ohio, have suspended or terminated their vehicle emissions testing programs; and

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**Whereas**, Virginia has rejected the United States Environmental Protection Agency's vehicle emissions testing program and established its own program in response to

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24 federal mandates forced upon the states to comply with the 1990 Clean Air Act, as amended; and  
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26 **Whereas**, the Illinois Legislature passed Senate Resolution No. 119 to direct the  
27 State Auditor General to conduct an audit of the Illinois EPA-mandated vehicle emissions testing  
28 program after more than 800 vehicle owners filed a class action lawsuit against the testing  
29 company claiming that the invasive emissions test had damaged their vehicles; and  
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31 **Whereas**, on January 24, 2002, New Jersey Governor James E. McGreevey  
32 announced that he has assembled a team of procurement, environmental, and management  
33 experts to conduct a full and complete management review of New Jersey's \$500 million contract  
34 with the state's auto emissions testing company to determine the "root cause" of the problems in  
35 the program and cost overruns that New Jersey has experienced; and  
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37 **Whereas**, Missouri should consider the actions of these states that have audited,  
38 suspended, or terminated their vehicle emissions testing programs:  
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40 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of  
41 Representatives of the Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate  
42 concurring therein, hereby acknowledge the considerable evidence that the Gateway Clean Air  
43 Program is costly, ineffective, wasteful, and lacks accountability and therefore request the State  
44 Auditor to conduct an audit of the Gateway Clean Air Program similar to the actions taken in  
45 Illinois, with such audit to be completed by December 31, 2003, and a report provided to the  
46 General Assembly in January 2004; and  
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48 **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of  
49 Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for State  
50 Auditor Claire McCaskill, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources and each  
51 member of the Missouri Congressional Delegation.