House Concurrent Resolution No. 22 93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1688L.01I

	Whereas, the price of natural gas in the United States, already the highest in the
2 3	industrial world, has again spiked and shows continued volatility; and
4	Whereas, the current price of natural gas is equivalent to paying \$16.00 for a
5 6	gallon of milk, \$12.70 for a pound of ground beef, or \$9.21 for a gallon of gasoline; and
7	Whereas, abnormally high natural gas prices have been a \$111 billion
8 9	unanticipated burden on the economy of the United States over the past 18 months; and
10	Whereas, the United States is over reliant on natural gas in our national energy
11 12	supply, creating a tremendous imbalance between natural gas supply and demand; and
13	Whereas, the manufacturers, farmers, small businesses, local governments, and
14 15 16 17	retailers are struggling from skyrocketing natural gas prices. Further, thousands of jobs in these industries are threatened since many of these businesses use natural gas as a raw material as well as an energy supply; and
18	Whereas, the natural gas imbalance is not a free market problem. The high price
19 20 21 22 23	of natural gas is created by governmental policies that increase demand for natural gas while impeding the development of a greater supply by discouraging more exploration and production. Since natural gas is domestically produced and very hard to import, the United States cannot correct the imbalance by the importation of natural gas; and