

Resolution No. _____

RESOLUTION: To support the defense and ultimate implementation of Maryland's Clean Cars Act, and to endorse and encourage legal and other action be taken by the Governor and the Attorney General to implement Maryland's Clean Car Act and to reduce greenhouse gases from vehicles.

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville is concerned with reducing sources of greenhouse gases contributing to global climate change; and

WHEREAS, transportation-related emissions from cars, trucks and airplanes accounted for thirty three percent (33%) of US greenhouse gases in 2005; and

WHEREAS, on August 4, 2005, the State of California adopted air pollution controls on vehicles that would have reduced these greenhouse gases by thirty percent (30%) by 2016; and

WHEREAS, under the Clean Air Act, the United States Environmental Protection Agency is required to review and approve significant changes to State air pollution programs, including the California reductions in vehicle greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the Maryland Legislature, under the Clean Cars Act of 2007, directed the Maryland Department of the Environment to adopt greenhouse gas reductions for vehicles similar to the California requirements beginning with the model year 2011; in addition to California and Maryland, sixteen other States have either adopted or are in the process of adopting the California standards; and

WHEREAS, the federal Clean Air Act expressly provides California the authority to set its own more stringent air pollutant regulations for vehicles, and allows other states, like Maryland, to adopt California's standards rather than those set by the federal government; and

WHEREAS, on December 19, 2007, EPA announced that it was rejecting the more stringent California standards, effectively blocking their implementation, and by extension, setting up likely denial of the Maryland standards; and

WHEREAS, California has indicated it intends to pursue legal action challenging the EPA rejection of its standards; and

WHEREAS, the Maryland Attorney General has indicated the State is contemplating intervening in any such litigation in support of the State of California;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE, that the City of Rockville, Maryland fully supports the defense and ultimate implementation of Maryland's Clean Cars Act, and that the City endorses and encourages legal and other actions to be taken by the Governor and the Attorney General and to reduce greenhouse gases from vehicles.

Resolution No. _____

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I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council at its meeting of _____

Claire F. Funkhouser, City Clerk