

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31

BY ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE, RECOGNIZING NUCLEAR POWER AS A SIGNIFICANT EMISSIONS-FREE ENERGY RESOURCE AND A NECESSARY CONTRIBUTOR TO THE UNITED STATES' ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, AND RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING WORK AND SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE IDAHO NATIONAL LABORATORY.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, nuclear power production is an established and growing global industry and contributes greatly to the United States' carbon-free electricity supply; and

WHEREAS, according to the Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources, nuclear power supplies nearly 20% of the nation's electricity; and

WHEREAS, a March 2015 national poll found that 69% of Americans favor the use of nuclear energy; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Energy and Mineral Resources also highlights that there are 96 nuclear reactors operating in 29 states and that, over the past two decades, the operational performance of these reactors has improved, as demonstrated by an increase in operational capacity factor from approximately 53% in 1980 to over 90% today; and

WHEREAS, although Idaho has no commercial nuclear power plant, the Idaho National Laboratory (INL), as the U.S. Department of Energy's laboratory for nuclear energy, has had a significant influence on reactor designs across the globe; and

WHEREAS, Idaho has designed, constructed, operated, and decommissioned more nuclear reactors than anywhere in the world; and

WHEREAS, the INL works in each of the strategic goal areas of the Department of Energy: energy, national security, science, and environment; and

WHEREAS, advanced nuclear reactor designs such as small modular reactors and micro reactors represent the future of nuclear energy and are at the core of INL's nuclear research; and

WHEREAS, the INL conducts vital research that allows it to sustain and develop nuclear energy technologies, scale other clean energy technologies, protect critical infrastructure, support national defense and homeland security, bolster cybersecurity, and ensure nuclear materials do not fall into the wrong hands.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-fifth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that we recognize nuclear power as a significant emissions-free energy resource and a necessary contributor to the United States' electricity supply and further recognize the outstanding work and significant contributions of the Idaho National Laboratory.