

Amendment No. 2 to SJR0736

**Kurita
Signature of Sponsor**

FILED
Date _____
Time _____
Clerk _____
Comm. Amdt. _____

AMEND Senate Joint Resolution No. 736* <HB>

by deleting the caption in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

A RESOLUTION urging and encouraging the development of renewable energy sources.

AND FURTHER AMEND by deleting the preamble in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

WHEREAS, America's increased dependence on foreign energy supplies and global competition for oil and natural gas will create a threat to our national security; and

WHEREAS, U.S. energy use is growing twice as fast as U.S. energy production; since 2000, natural gas prices have increased 140 percent and oil prices have increased 107 percent; and

WHEREAS, the nation's farming and ranching sectors depend on a reliable and affordable supply of energy to run equipment, fertilize crops, and transport products to market; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has estimated that farmers' fuel expenses for 2005 exceeded their 2004 fuel expenses by 37 percent, and higher energy prices mean increased costs to farmers and ranchers, who already face tremendous economic challenges; and

WHEREAS, farmers' fuel, oil, and electricity expenditures have increased from \$8.6 billion to \$11.5 billion since 1999, according to the USDA; these increases represent a \$4.5 billion decline in the U.S. fertilizer industry, which uses natural gas as a raw material to produce nitrogen fertilizer; since 2002, 36 percent of the U.S. fertilizer industry has been shut down or mothballed; and

WHEREAS, rising energy costs are also taking a toll on poor families throughout the nation; according to the National Energy Assistance Directors Association, 32

percent of families had to sacrifice medical care, 24 percent of families failed to make their rent or mortgage payment, 20 percent of families were without food for at least a day, and 44 percent of families skipped paying or paid less than their home energy bill in the past year; and

WHEREAS, in spite of significant progress in energy efficiency, the U.S. will still need 32 percent more energy to support economic growth by 2025; and

WHEREAS, the general assembly recognizes that the United States cannot drill itself out of this energy crisis; now, therefore,

AND FURTHER AMEND by deleting all language after the preamble and by substituting instead the following:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we urge and encourage oil or gas companies that have received subsidies, tax breaks, or production incentives to return monies in an amount equal to the totality of subsidies, breaks, and incentives received during this budget year to the appropriate source from which the subsidy, break, or incentive was received.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that monies returned by oil and gas companies shall be budgeted in part to fund grants for renewable energy projects that seek to develop renewable energy sources through technological innovation including, but not limited to: wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, water, and photovoltaic.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge and encourage monies returned by oil and gas companies to be budgeted in part to fund scholarships and grants for students attending institutions of higher education that are seeking degrees in disciplines that contribute to the development of renewable and alternative energy sources including but not limited to mathematics, science, and engineering.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge and encourage monies returned by oil and gas companies to be budgeted in part to fund faculty positions at institutes of

higher education in disciplines that contribute to the development of renewable and alternative energy sources including but not limited to mathematics, science, and engineering.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge and encourage tax incentives to be established for companies located in the United States that create employment opportunities for citizens of the United States in renewable energy development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Clerk of the Senate is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of House of Representatives of Congress, the delegation representing the state of Tennessee in the Congress of the United States, and the United States Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Energy.