

SENATE RESOLUTION 95

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to express support for the deregulation of the glider truck industry.

WHEREAS, the creation of jobs is essential to supporting Tennessee's continued economic viability and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, one such industry that has contributed mightily to Tennessee's economy is the glider truck industry; and

WHEREAS, glider kits use refurbished older components, including transmissions and pre-emission-rule engines with new frames, cabs, steer axles, wheels, and other equipment at a cost savings of up to 25 percent of the price of a new trailer truck; and

WHEREAS, the demand for glider trucks, glider engines, and glider kits has increased significantly since their introduction into the marketplace, with small businesses and owner-operators benefiting greatly from the cost savings; and

WHEREAS, one such business is Fitzgerald Trucking in Byrdstown, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has affected glider vehicles, glider engines, and glider kits by applying the agency's greenhouse gas Phase 2 emissions standard to the industry; and

WHEREAS, Fitzgerald and other manufacturers of glider kits throughout the country have been forced to close facilities and terminate significant numbers of their employees as a result of the Phase 2 emissions standard; and

WHEREAS, the EPA's rulemaking procedure and rapid regulatory changes have created an uncertain business climate that would otherwise result in the production of glider kits again and create much-needed jobs in the process; and

WHEREAS, governors throughout the United States have called on the EPA to create a more stable business environment for the producers of glider trucks; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we support the glider manufacturing industry in this State and an appropriate balance between such manufacturing and its impact on the environment, a move that would certainly enhance our economic development and prosperity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby request the Environmental Protection Agency to provide clarity to the glider truck industry through a transparent and timely rulemaking process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the administrator of the EPA and to each member of the Tennessee Congressional delegation.