

1 COMMITTEE: Agriculture and Energy

2 POLICY DIRECTIVE: Energy Security

3 TYPE OF POLICY: Draft Policy Directive

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5 ~~The NCSL acknowledges and applauds the enormous amount of work the states have~~
6 ~~devoted to developing comprehensive energy policies to date. However, **In order** to fully~~
7 ~~secure the further benefits that only a national energy policy can ensure, NCSL urges~~
8 ~~Congress to direct the U.S. Department of Energy through the national laboratories and~~
9 ~~technology centers to develop a national energy strategy for moving the United States toward~~
10 ~~independence from non-North American energy sources. The development of this strategy~~
11 ~~should be done in partnership with state governments and universities to leverage the work~~
12 ~~which has already been done to develop comprehensive state energy strategies. The~~
13 ~~national energy strategy **and** should encompass short, medium and long-term goals~~
14 ~~designed to enable **help transition** the nation to transition from current energy production~~
15 ~~and use patterns to a more secure and financially stable future configuration that is drastically~~
16 ~~more independent of non-North American energy sources. **(Lines 5-16 are incorporated**~~
17 ~~**from existing Fundamental Support Necessary to Ensure a Secure & Sustainable**~~
18 ~~**Energy Future Policy, Lines 76-87)**~~

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20 The NCSL believes a considerable effort needs to be undertaken at the federal level in
21 partnership with state, local and tribal governments to ~~advance **help bring about** action that~~
22 ~~moves us closer to our ultimate goal of a **more** secure and sustainable energy future. To that~~
23 ~~end NCSL urges action by Congress and the administration **to**:~~

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25 • ~~To p~~**P**romote enhanced efficiency and conservation in the use of our energy
26 resources;

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28 • ~~To promote **Establish** a diversified national energy portfolio that would reduce our~~
29 ~~reliance on a limited number of energy sources;~~

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- 31 • Encourage and assist in the development of enhanced oil and gas refining capacity
32 and technology;
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- 34 • Support domestic energy production and reduce imports;
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- 36 • Regularly reviews and updates CAFE standards;
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- 38 • ~~To a~~ **A**ccelerate research and development of advanced clean energy technologies;
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- 40 • ~~To p~~ **P**romote the development of an infrastructure to support the distribution of clean
41 energy technologies;
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- 43 • ~~To e~~ **E**nsure energy resources are used in a sustainable and environmentally sound
44 manner;
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- 46 • ~~To s~~ **S**upport investment in the national academic and job training systems in order to
47 advance science and engineering curricula **for the purpose of creating a highly**
48 **skilled and trained workforce**; ~~and ensure a trained workforce exists to accomplish~~
49 ~~the necessary research and development of advanced clean energy technologies;~~
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- 51 • ~~To support both basic and advanced science education that would provide a~~
52 ~~foundation for tomorrow's workforce and reverse the decline in well-qualified entrants~~
53 ~~into the domestic energy economy;~~
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- 55 • ~~To a~~ **A**ddress the limitations of the visa system that restricts entry to the United states
56 of leading scientists and engineers from around the world; and
- 57
- 58 • ~~To a~~ **A**ddress the capital, material and labor deficiencies affecting our ability to
59 manufacture and deploy advanced clean energy technologies. ***(Lines 20-59 are***
60 ***incorporated from existing Fundamental Support Necessary to Ensure a Secure***
61 ***& Sustainable Energy Future Policy, Lines 33-72)***
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63 ~~The National Conference of State Legislators calls on the United States Congress to enact~~
64 ~~the legislative recommendations of the Southern States Energy Board's American Energy~~
65 ~~Security Study. Immediate Congressional action is needed to a~~**A**~~ccelerate the deployment~~
66 ~~and use of alternative transportation fuels produced from coal, biomass, and oil shale, in~~
67 ~~order to begin to eliminate the United States' **nation's** dependence on foreign sources of oil.~~
68 ~~Copies of this policy position shall be forwarded to members of the Congress of the United~~
69 ~~States.~~ **(Lines 63-69 are incorporated from existing Energy Security Policy, Lines 34-39)**

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71 The U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency should work
72 in partnership with states **to**:

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74 1. ~~in~~**d**~~eveloping and implementing state and federal energy policy planning processes;~~

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76 2. ~~in~~**d**~~eveloping new energy efficiency and other demand-side options, as well as~~
77 ~~deploying new and conventional supply-side technologies;~~

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79 3. ~~Given the national implications of state energy concerns, the federal government should~~
80 ~~p~~**r**~~ovide sufficient funding to states as they develop energy policies on an individual or~~
81 ~~regional basis; and~~

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83 4. ~~The federal government should exercise its authority, especially when requested by~~
84 ~~states, to **Provide** assist**ance** them, **when requested**, as they **states** attempt to solve their~~
85 ~~energy problems. (Lines 71-85 are incorporated from Energy Regionalism policy, Lines~~
86 ~~**37-50)**~~

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88 ~~Given the energy concerns for the nation and those shared by many individual states, NCSL~~
89 ~~believes that state legislatures should work together, regionally or otherwise, to solve their~~
90 ~~individual and collective energy supply concerns. Therefore, NCSL believes that:~~

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92 **NCSL believes:**

93 States should have the option and authority of being represented in Regional Transmission
94 Organizations (RTOs) on a voluntary basis. ~~State~~ **Such** participation in an RTO should not
95 supersede nor alter state jurisdiction, unless agreed to by the state;

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97 **Congress should facilitate the development of** ~~S~~state-created regional mechanisms like
98 interstate compacts and regional reliability boards designed to address transmission
99 reliability, **problems related to the interconnectedness of the energy grid, environmental**
100 **impact of generating electricity,** and other regional energy issues should be facilitated by
101 Congress;

102
103 ~~States should collaborate to resolve problems related to the interconnectedness of the~~
104 ~~energy grid and the environmental impact of generating electricity;~~

105
106 Energy facility siting should remain under state jurisdiction devoid of federal mandates and
107 preemption; Electric facility siting authority should remain under state authority.

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109 The federal government should not exercise its power of eminent domain in its pursuit of
110 constructing energy facilities or related purposes;

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112 To the extent to which federal activity has restricted state authority over electric facility siting,
113 specifically electricity transmission lines, the federal government should work together with
114 the states to ensure a seamless system of regulatory action and minimize the necessity for
115 the federal backstop to be used; . ***(Lines 88-115 incorporated from Energy Regionalism***
116 ***Policy, Lines 11-35)***

117
118 ~~On August 29, 2005, the Southern States Energy Board (SSEB) began a study entitled~~
119 ~~“American Energy Security,” which analyzes the limitations of world oil production, the~~
120 ~~consequences of rapid growth in energy demand from “developing” nations led by China and~~
121 ~~India, and the significant vulnerabilities faced by the United States due to excessive~~
122 ~~dependence on foreign sources of oil. The Study proposes a plan for America to establish~~
123 ~~energy security and independence beginning in 2010 by replacing 5-percent of our oil imports~~
124 ~~each year through 2030 utilizing domestically produced coal, biomass and oil shale. The~~

125 ~~Study demonstrates that whereas world proven oil reserves equal roughly 3 trillion barrels,~~
126 ~~the United States has between 2 trillion and 4 trillion barrels of oil equivalent available today~~
127 ~~in the form of coal, biomass, and oil shale.~~

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129 ~~To achieve these goals, the Study proposes the rapid development of large “poly-gen” energy~~
130 ~~plants utilizing gasification technologies. Long used in the chemical industry and overseas,~~
131 ~~gasification technologies are capable of producing environmentally superior transportation~~
132 ~~fuels, industrial and pipeline-quality synthetic natural gas, zero-emissions electricity,~~
133 ~~hydrogen, chemicals for fertilizers, and enhanced oil and natural gas recovery using captured~~
134 ~~carbon dioxide, all at stable, long-term costs below the current market prices for oil and~~
135 ~~natural gas. Rapid deployment of these technologies, which would enhance current ethanol~~
136 ~~and biodiesel initiatives already underway, could completely eliminate U.S. dependence on~~
137 ~~foreign sources of oil by 2030.~~

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139 ~~In addition to the national security benefits of this endeavor, the economic benefit to the~~
140 ~~United States of developing this new “energy manufacturing” sector would be staggering.~~
141 ~~Recent analysis prepared by the U.S. Department of Energy concluded that rapid deployment~~
142 ~~over the next two decades of gasification technology using coal as a primary feedstock for~~
143 ~~gaseous and liquid fuels would create nearly 1.5 million new, high-paying energy~~
144 ~~manufacturing jobs in the United States; reduce our nation’s energy costs by 33 percent; and,~~
145 ~~result in an aggregate GDP gain of more than \$3 trillion.~~