

1 COMMITTEE: Environment
2 POLICY: The Importance of Research and Development for
3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions
4 TYPE OF POLICY: Existing
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6 The National Conference of State Legislatures believes that the United States remains the
7 premier country in the world for innovation, and that the ingenuity of the citizens of this nation
8 will lead to the reduction of greenhouse gases while fueling our economy. Accordingly, NCSL
9 strongly urges the federal government to authorize and appropriate funding and provide other
10 incentives to spur expanded research and development (R&D), as well as advance the
11 demonstration and deployment of new and existing technologies to improve energy
12 efficiency, advance mitigation strategies and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Federal
13 support could include, but should not be limited to tax incentives, grants, and loan
14 guarantees. It is imperative that legislation not limit the diversity of technologies supported, as
15 future advancements cannot be predicted.

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17 NCSL further urges the federal government to take into account state and regional
18 differences , and while not limiting the diversity of technologies an also not limit or specify the
19 technologies used in each state. States best understand the needs and the capacity of local
20 and state economies and ecosystems, and federal programs should provide sufficient
21 flexibility for each State to determine how to best achieve nationally-set goals.

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23 Developing countries offer a unique opportunity for the deployment of technologies that will
24 improve the way of life of the people and the environment through lessons learned by
25 developed countries. The federal government should encourage the development of such
26 technologies, and work with developing countries to implement policies to grow their
27 economies without releasing damaging emissions into the air. Such actions will benefit the
28 people of those countries as well as the citizens of the United States by increasing trade and
29 improving air quality on a global level.

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31 To advance these efforts, NCSL also urges the federal government to promote current and
32 future innovations and expand the use of such technology through R&D transfer agreements
33 with other countries.
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