

1 COMMITTEE: Environment  
2 POLICY: Multi-Pollutant Legislation  
3 TYPE OF POLICY: Existing  
4

5 The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) fully supports the underlying goals of  
6 the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (CAAA) which represent a major step toward  
7 addressing important environmental, air quality, and public health issues. NCSL believes that  
8 national efforts to fully implement the CAAA, to maintain and enhance air quality at the local,  
9 state and national level requires Congressional action on multi-pollutant legislation.  
10

11 NCSL urges Congress to act expeditiously on multi-pollutant legislation to provide certainty in  
12 a time of limited federal and state resources and to enhance the impact of this federal  
13 program which is implemented at the state level. As technology progresses, efforts to reduce  
14 and/or eliminate one set of emissions often produce co-benefits that affect the emission rates  
15 of other pollutants. These advancements should be taken into consideration when  
16 establishing uniform minimum federal standards for reduction of air pollutants within the  
17 context of the existing state-federal partnership of the CAAA. New legislation enacted by  
18 Congress should ensure the ability of all stakeholders to move forward with air pollutant  
19 emission reductions, enhance the environment and protect public health while providing a  
20 stable planning environment for energy providers and consumers.  
21

22 NCSL recommends that:  
23

- 24 • New federal standards should maintain and renew the commitment to statutory  
25 authority for states to enact state environmental standards that are more stringent than  
26 their minimum federal counterparts.  
27
- 28 • New federal standards should acknowledge the existence of state programs and  
29 agreements in accord with these standards and should not preempt their continued  
30 implementation.  
31

31  
32

- 33
- New federal standards should be accompanied by adequate federal funding and  
34 technical assistance that are essential to state efforts to implement complete and  
35 adequate state programs that fully comply with these standards.  
36
  - New federal standards should provide states with maximum flexibility to apply the law  
37 effectively to all sources of emissions and ensure achievement of clean air goals in the  
38 most cost effective, timely and efficient manner for each state.  
39
  - New federal standards should allow states to maintain all of the enforcement tools  
40 available to states under the CAA to ensure compliance with state implementation of  
41 federal regulations.  
42
  - New federal standards should permit states to allow sources to trade emissions  
43 reductions and protect state authority to restrict which emissions may or may not be  
44 traded within a state's borders.  
45
  - New federal standards should allow for regional air planning coordination among  
46 states whenever they agree to address and act on issues with regional air quality  
47 implications.  
48
  - New federal standards should allow for regional air planning coordination among  
49 states whenever they agree to address and act on issues with regional air quality  
50 implications.  
51
  - 52