TO THE HONORABLE CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF
WASHINGTON:

We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
represent and petition as follows:

WHEREAS, There has been no credible economic analysis of the costs
associated with carbon reduction mandates and the consequential effect
of the increasing costs of doing business in the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, Forcing business, industry, and food producers to reduce
carbon emissions through government mandates and cap and trade policies
under consideration by the western climate initiative will increase the
cost of doing business, push companies to do business with other states
or nations, and increase consumer costs for electricity, fuel, and
food; and

WHEREAS, The congressional budget office warns that the cost of cap
and trade policies will be borne by consumers and will place a
disproportionately high burden on poorer families; and

WHEREAS, Washington State has an estimated three-tenths of one
percent of global greenhouse gas emissions; so simply reducing carbon
emissions in the State will have no significant impact on international carbon reduction, especially while countries like China, Russia, Mexico, and India emit an ever-increasing amount of carbon into the atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, Washington's per capita emissions have decreased seven percent from 1990 to 2007 and are two-thirds the amount of the rest of the country without western climate initiative policies; and

WHEREAS, A tremendous amount of economic generation and stability would be sacrificed for a reduction in carbon emissions that would have no appreciable impact on global concentrations of carbon dioxide; and

WHEREAS, No state or nation has enhanced economic opportunities for its citizens or increased gross domestic product through cap and trade or other carbon reduction policies; and

WHEREAS, Europe's cap and trade system has been undermined by political favoritism, accounting tricks, and has failed to achieve even a fraction of its carbon reduction targets; and

WHEREAS, There is potential for government abuse to use proceeds from such programs not for carbon reductions programs or to offset the higher costs on citizens from the policies but to supplement general fund deficits as done by some states currently participating in the regional greenhouse gas initiative;

NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the governor withdraw Washington State from the western climate initiative.

BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the State of Washington.

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