Joint Resolution No. 5

(House Joint Resolution No. 22)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Maryland Energy Policy

FOR the purpose of describing the General Assembly's view of energy policy and establishing guidelines for long–range planning and goals for energy use in Maryland.

WHEREAS: The State of Maryland's population and economy will continue to grow for the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS: Energy is a key determinant of environmental quality, the vitality of the State's economy, and the way we live; and

WHEREAS: Energy is provided from natural and processed resources which are both limited and costly; and

WHEREAS, The sources of energy most commonly used are various natural resources, which are not only expensive and limited in supply but are also subject to state and local controls outside Maryland, including the often unpredictable controls exerted by politically unstable governments; and

WHEREAS, Efficient use of energy will reduce the cost of State government, lower the costs of commerce within Maryland, and provide a more secure supply of energy at a lower cost to the citizens of the State; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Maryland Energy Policy established in this Resolution serve as the basis for policy decisions made in the State regarding energy consumption; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the energy Policy of the State of Maryland shall be to:

1.   Assure Maryland's energy supply and environmental quality through the promotion and encouragement of efficient energy practices and improvements throughout the State;

2.   Adopt and implement mechanisms to assure energy efficient communities, buildings, equipment and transportation systems throughout the State;

3.   Ensure environmental quality for all citizens of Maryland through the sound use of energy;

4.   Ensure sustained economic growth through the efficient use of all cost–effective energy resources ~~and by incorporating renewable energy sources,~~ and energy–efficient products and processes;