

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 750 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY GODSHALL, CUTLER, EVERETT, KOTIK, MARSHALL,
MILLARD, PICKETT, QUIGLEY, SAYLOR AND SWANGER, JUNE 4, 2012

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 4, 2012

A RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing the President and the Congress of the United
2 States to provide for the storage of used nuclear fuel.

3 WHEREAS, Nuclear utility ratepayers throughout the United
4 States have contributed more than \$37,000,000,000 in fees and
5 interest, as mandated by the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982,
6 for the purpose of removing used nuclear fuel from commercial
7 reactor sites; and

8 WHEREAS, Nuclear utility ratepayers in this Commonwealth have
9 contributed more than \$3,200,000,000 in fees and interest to the
10 Nuclear Waste Fund; and

11 WHEREAS, The Federal Government has failed to satisfy the
12 statutory requirement in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 to
13 begin accepting used nuclear fuel in 1998 and has failed to meet
14 the terms of its contracts with United States nuclear plant
15 operators; and

16 WHEREAS, The 104 operating commercial reactors in the United
17 States have accumulated more than 67,000 metric tons of used
18 nuclear fuel which is stored at plant sites, including 6,000

metric tons stored at five sites within this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, The current administration and Congress have terminated funding of all activities related to the license review or further development of a permanent central disposal repository at the Yucca Mountain Project in Nevada, which has been the Federal Government's only intended destination for used commercial nuclear fuel; and

WHEREAS, There are lawsuits pending to attempt to compel the Federal Government to meet its obligations under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982; and

WHEREAS, In January 2010, the current administration appointed a Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future comprised of distinguished American scientists and nuclear policymakers to review various alternative options and make recommendations for future safe management of United States commercial used nuclear fuel; and

WHEREAS, The Blue Ribbon Commission has recommended an integrated nuclear fuel management program incorporating all of the following:

(1) The development of one or more Nuclear Regulatory Commission-licensed private or government-owned centralized interim storage facilities in communities in states that would willingly host the facilities.

(2) Continued public and private sector research, development and deployment of used fuel and nuclear waste recycling technologies to close the nuclear fuel cycle in a safe, environmentally responsible, proliferation-resistant and economically viable process.

(3) Assured access by the nuclear fuel management program to revenues generated by consumers through continued

1 payments and to existing balances in the Nuclear Waste Fund;
2 therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives memorialize the
4 President and the Congress of the United States to do all of the
5 following:

6 (1) Adopt legislation enabling the construction of one
7 or more centralized interim nuclear fuel storage facilities
8 through directives to the United States Department of Energy
9 and through incentives to interested communities funded by
10 the accumulated Nuclear Waste Fund.

11 (2) Recognize that there are communities that are
12 willing to host centralized fuel storage facilities and
13 states that are ready to voluntarily accept used fuel.

14 (3) Assure access by the nuclear fuel management program
15 to revenues generated by consumers' continuing fee payments
16 and to the significant balance in the Nuclear Waste Fund or,
17 in the alternative, refund payments and interest to nuclear
18 utility ratepayers.

19 (4) Enable one or more Nuclear Regulatory Commission-
20 licensed private interim storage facilities to meet this
21 public policy need in the United States;

22 and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
24 the President, presiding officers of each house of Congress and
25 to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.