

Illinois Republican Party 2024 Resolution
In Support of American Energy Independence

WHEREAS, the threats to America inextricably link national security with energy security and energy independence; and

WHEREAS, energy produced in America or in friendly nations such as Canada is preferable to purchasing energy from unfriendly governments like Venezuela and Russia and governments that support terrorism such as Iran, Iraq and Syria; and

WHEREAS, energy produced by American companies creates American jobs, raises capital for American investment and does not fund unstable or unfriendly governments or terrorist activities; and

WHEREAS, the more of our world's energy demand that is met by United States supply strengthens our ability to influence foreign policy without using our military and is a positive influence in the world; and

WHEREAS, the electric grid in Illinois is crucial for fostering economic growth; and

WHEREAS, clean coal, natural gas and nuclear power generation are the only reliable sources of base load power; and

WHEREAS, solar, wind and other renewable power generation sources offer opportunities to provide peaking capacity and augment the United States and Illinois power needs; and

WHEREAS, in 2023 the electrical energy generation mix in IL was approximately 55% nuclear, 16% natural gas, 15% coal, 12% wind, 1% solar and less than 1% other sources; and

WHEREAS, natural gas is a significant source of heating in Illinois and according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), natural gas is the primary heating fuel for approximately 60% of Illinois households; and

WHEREAS, Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) requires a carbon-free power grid by 2045 and the closing of all fossil-fuel power plants which currently represent 31% of Illinois energy production capacity; and

WHEREAS, CEJA requires renewable energy to reach 40% of State of Illinois power by 2030 and 50% by 2040 from the current amount of 13%, and

WHEREAS, Electric Vehicles (EVs) have potential but have technological limitations such as range, battery replacement costs, battery recycling and their reliance on rare earth minerals that are a scarce resource; and

WHEREAS, CEJA provides for a state subsidy of \$4,000 per electric vehicle (EV), and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government provides tax credits of up to \$7,500 per EV and up to 30% of the installation of solar power or wind generation, and

WHEREAS, the current electric grid cannot support the electrification of all of our power needs; and

WHEREAS, proven technologies such as co-generation, compressed natural gas vehicles, hybrid vehicles and LED lighting have improved efficiency, air quality and the environment in general; and

WHEREAS, new technologies such as hydrogen fuel cells will continue to offer opportunities to provide power generation, energy efficiency and a cleaner environment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Illinois Republican Party declares that in the interest of American national security and economic strength, we shall support and advocate investment in all energy sources including nuclear, clean coal, natural gas and renewables to promote American energy independence; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Illinois Republican Party steadfastly believes that the market should drive changes to our energy use rather than arbitrary edicts by state and federal governments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Illinois Republican Party supports the repeal of the Illinois Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) and replacing it with legislation that supports research and development and market-based reforms that are realistic and are not a burden on the residents and business of the State of Illinois.

Adopted and affirmed by the Platform and Resolutions Committee on May 24, 2024 in Collinsville, Illinois and agreed upon by the state convention delegates on May 25, 2024