

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO EMPLOY AND ENFORCE THE CLEAN AIR ACT TO REDUCE CARBON IN OUR ATMOSPHERE TO NO MORE THAN 350 PARTS PER MILLION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, for more than four decades, the Clean Air Act has protected the air we breathe through a comprehensive and successful system of pollution controls which have saved lives and created economic benefits for citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS, between 1970 and 1990, the six main pollutants covered by the Clean Air Act - particulate matter, ground-level ozone, carbon monoxide, lead, sulfur and nitrogen oxides (the pollutants that cause acid rain) - were reduced by 47 to 93 percent, and airborne lead was virtually eliminated; and

WHEREAS, the Clean Air Act has produced economic benefits valued at two (2) trillion dollars, or 30 times the cost of regulation; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Massachusetts vs. EPA (2007) that greenhouse gases are "air pollutants" as defined by the Clean Air Act and the Environmental Protection Agency has the authority to regulate them; and

WHEREAS, supporting EPA regulation of greenhouse gases, with a goal of reducing the rate of global warming, is consistent with the city's Climate Action Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the City Commission finds that climate change is not an abstract problem for the future, but rather climate change is happening now, that we are causing it, and that the longer we wait to act, the more difficult the problem will be to solve.

Section 2: That the City Commission, on behalf of the residents of the City of Key West, does hereby urge the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and President Barack Obama to move swiftly to employ and enforce the Clean Air Act to reduce carbon in the atmosphere to no more than 350 parts per million.

Section 3: That the City Clerk is hereby authorized to transmit certified copies of this Resolution to President Barack Obama, and to the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Section 4: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this _____ day of _____, 2013.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on _____ day of _____, 2013.

Filed with the Clerk on _____, 2013.

CRAIG CATES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK