

# State of Vermont

## House of Representatives



### Montpelier, Vermont

### Joint House Resolution

J.R.H. 36

Joint resolution urging Congress to create a cleaner and greener standard for heating oil in the Northeast and to extend the federal tax credit for biodiesel fuel

Offered by: Committee on Natural Resources and Energy

Whereas, more than one-half of the homes in Vermont are heated with heating oil, and

Whereas, an ultra-low sulfur standard for heating oil would dramatically cut air emissions while reducing both maintenance costs and consumption, and

Whereas, an ultra-low sulfur fuel standard would allow consumers to utilize more efficient heating oil furnaces and boilers, and

Whereas, heating oil that is blended with up to five percent biodiesel can be used in existing appliances that use heating oil, and

Whereas, an increase in the use of heating oil blended with biodiesel would result in reduced dependence on fossil fuels and foreign oil, and

Whereas, the environmental benefits of ultra-low sulfur diesel and biodiesel blends for space heating are beneficial in reducing both particulate matter and greenhouse gas emissions, and

Whereas, the adoption of a uniform standard for ultra-low sulfur diesel and biodiesel blends in the Northeast region – defined as the group of states consisting of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont – would encourage a market for cleaner and greener heating oil that is more efficient and economical for suppliers and consumers, and

Whereas, the extension of the biodiesel tax credit would increase biodiesel production and allow Vermont farmers to develop the feed stocks and capacity to supply biodiesel to Vermont oil heat retailers, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly urges Congress to: (a) create a uniform heating oil standard for the Northeast states identified in this resolution that requires an ultra-low sulfur distillate fuel blended with up to five percent biodiesel; and

(b) extend the \$1 per gallon biodiesel federal tax credit that expired on December 31, 2009, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Congressional Delegation.