



**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
CABARRUS REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
IN SUPPORT OF
THE CURRENT NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS FOR OZONE**

Resolution #01-2015

WHEREAS, the Cabarrus Regional Chamber of Commerce strongly supports clean-air standards at a level that ensures public health and improves quality of life for all our residents; and

WHEREAS, both state and local governments and private industry are making measurable progress in improving air quality, with the national average for ozone levels having decreased by 21 percent from 1980 to 2006; aggregate emissions of six principal pollutants down more than half since 1980 despite a 46 percent increase in population; and programs in place that cut power plant emissions by more than 40% since 2010 in 30 eastern jurisdictions, reduce emissions vehicles by 77 to 95 percent from 2004 levels, dramatically reduce airborne levels of mercury and virtually eliminate diesel emissions; and

WHEREAS, state and local governments and business are working diligently to meet the Environmental Protection Agency's current National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ground level ozone by the 2020 deadline, investing approximately \$20 billion each year, according to EPA estimates; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency, in the course of its required review of NAAQS, is nevertheless considering a further tightening of the ozone standard to 0.065 parts per million; and

WHEREAS, further tightening the ozone standard, even before the current standard is met, could significantly expand the number of nonattainment areas/counties and result in emissions controls in additional rural areas with minimal population, thereby imposing significant administrative and regulatory burdens on more citizens, businesses and local governments; and

WHEREAS, the Agency is proposing this action with little evidence that the change in standards will result in significant health benefits and with virtually little analysis of the enormous costs that will be charged to the Cabarrus Region's urban area businesses and consumers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cabarrus Regional Chamber of Commerce, advise and strongly urge EPA to retain the existing NAAQS for ozone; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the EPA is urged to identify any unfunded mandates or other administrative and economic burdens for state or local governments or agencies that would derive from changes to the NAAQS for ozone.

Adopted this the 19th day of February 2015.


Tammy Whaley
Chair, Board of Directors


Patrick Coughlin
President & CEO
Cabarrus Regional Chamber of Commerce