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Support for climate change article

To the editor:

I am writing to ask for your support of the New Hampshire Climate Change Resolution that will soon be considered by voters in over 180 New Hampshire towns during the upcoming 2007 town meetings. The resolution is the result of a New Hampshire based non-partisan effort to encourage the president and Congress to take action on climate change.

Scientists worldwide are in almost unanimous agreement that emissions from fossil fuel use are causing a buildup of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and causing the Earth's temperature to rise. The Arctic Ocean summer ice cover has decreased by 20 percent since 1979. Glaciers are retreating worldwide and experts predict that both Mount Kilimanjaro and Glacier National Park will be glacier free by the year 2030. Eleven of the last 12 years are among the 12 hottest years on record.

A team of leading climate scientists recently published a report assessing the impact of climate change on the Northeast. The report predicts significant changes to New Hampshire's climate unless we take action now to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. By the end of the century our climate will resemble that of North Carolina with approximately 65 days of annual heat above 90 degrees and 21 days above 100 degrees. We will lose our vibrant fall foliage, winter ski season, sugar maples and comfortable summers.

We can solve this problem. Our great nation has a long history of rising to the occasion when presented with daunting challenges. The time is long overdue for the United States to take a worldwide leadership role in developing economical renewable energy technologies. This will bring us renewed prosperity by creating new jobs and industries while also improving national security by freeing us of our dependence on foreign oil.

The choices we make on this issue will be our generation's legacy. We owe it to our children and grandchildren to leave them with a New Hampshire that is not unlike the one we enjoy today.

John Bergman

Barrington