

1                   **RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING CLIMATE CHANGE AS A NATIONAL AND LOCAL THREAT AND**  
2                                   **ENCOURAGING REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN,**  
3                                   **THE HONORABLE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,**  
4                                   **TO SUPPORT LEGISLATIVE SOLUTIONS TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS**  
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6   **Whereas** the combustion of fossil fuels is the primary cause of climate change; and

7   **Whereas** concentrations of atmospheric carbon dioxide have increased from about 270 part per million  
8 to 404 parts per million and are increasing at about 2.5 parts per million per year; and

9   **Whereas** global average temperatures have increase by 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit since the late 19<sup>th</sup>  
10 century; and

11 **Whereas** climate change imperils coastal communities, national security, agriculture productivity,  
12 infrastructure, ecosystems, and human health; and

13 **Whereas** the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts projects:

14                   that an increase of 4 to 9 degrees Fahrenheit in Wisconsin’s annual average temperature by  
15 mid-century under a business-as-usual scenario; and

16                   that climate change has and will continue to intensify the hydrological cycle, leading to more  
17 total precipitation and more intense storms which will increase damage to homes, businesses, roads,  
18 bridges, and other public and private property, including public wastewater utilities; and

19                   that climate change shall cause persistent higher temperatures which shall likely reduce corn,  
20 soybean, and other agricultural crop yields and dairy output; and

21                   that climate change shall amplify summer heat waves, aggravate smog and ozone induced  
22 respiratory health problems, enhance the transmission of insect born diseases, and otherwise endanger  
23 human health; and

24                   that climate change shall cause uncertain water levels, higher water temperatures, and more  
25 severe weather on the Great Lakes, which shall impact coastal communities and property owners, lake-  
26 dependent businesses, and recreational lake users; and

27                   that climate change shall stress Wisconsin’s hunting and conservation heritage by undermining  
28 the critical habitat upon which species rely, such as brook trout and brown trout.

29 **Be it Resolved,**

30                   that the Racine City Council recognizes the mitigation of greenhouse gases as an international,  
31 national, and local priority; and therefore,

32                   that the Racine City Council encourages Representative Paul Ryan, the Honorable Speaker of the  
33 House of Representatives from Wisconsin’s First Congressional District, to pursue and support federal

- 1 policies which will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and transition the United States to renewable
- 2 forms of energy production.