

## **AMBIENT AIR QUALITY NEEDS TO BE THE BASIS FOR EMISSIONS FROM INDUSTRIAL PLANTS**

WHEREAS urban regions in Texas are consistently out of compliance with federal and state Ambient Air Quality environmental regulations;

- More than 5 million people in the urban regions in Texas live daily in poor to toxic air quality;
- Air pollution is known to aggravate respiratory congestion and impair the immune system in as little as seven (7) hours of exposure;
- Emissions from industry, dust, heavy vehicular traffic, and smoke comprise the factors contributing to poor regional air quality;
- Air quality management needs measurements and an appropriate baseline in order to monitor and enforce regulations;
- EPA, TCEQ, and cities have air monitors that measure specific pollutants.
- Health code regulations use an arbitrary basis/baseline for measuring emissions,
- Known toxic chemicals occur commonly at much higher levels in the atmosphere than health limits allow as a direct result of an arbitrary basis/baseline;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Texas State Democratic Party:

Supports ambient air quality as the basis/baseline for air emission levels from industrial plants in regions of Texas that are not in compliance with federal and state ambient air regulations.

Prepared by: The Environmental Initiative of the Houston Region Democrats 2.19.06

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

County: Harris                      Submitted to Precinct # \_\_\_\_\_ Senate District

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