

House Resolution 123 - Introduced

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 123

BY ISENHART, M. SMITH, MEYER, OLSON, WOLFE, BEARINGER,
KEARNS, KURTH, KACENA, STECKMAN, ANDERSON,
JACOBY, STAED, WINCKLER, McCONKEY, COHOON, R.
SMITH, GASKILL, HUNTER, OURTH, LENSING, FORBES,
KRESSIG, THEDE, HEDDENS, T. TAYLOR, BRECKENRIDGE,
NIELSEN, OLDSON, ABDUL-SAMAD, WESSEL-KROESCHELL,
H. MILLER, P. MILLER, HALL, RUNNING-MARQUARDT, and
BROWN-POWERS

1 A Resolution expressing support and extending
2 appreciation to the Iowa Department of Justice and
3 Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller for their efforts
4 to advocate for and protect the interests of Iowans
5 in state-federal relations.

6 WHEREAS, the administration of President Donald
7 Trump has initiated or undertaken numerous measures
8 affecting the powers, duties, responsibilities, and
9 prerogatives of the states which impact the rights,
10 safety, health, and welfare of the citizens of
11 Iowa; and

12 WHEREAS, the Iowa Department of Justice, under the
13 leadership of Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller, the
14 longest-serving state attorney general in the United
15 States, has joined with other attorneys general from
16 throughout the United States to protect the interests
17 of the states and their citizens; and

18 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller has undertaken this
19 work, in part, as a member of the Federalism/Preemption
20 Committee of the National Association of Attorneys
21 General, which has the mission to assist the attorney

1 general community on the issues of federalism and
2 preemption; and

3 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller's work has included
4 filing a lawsuit against federal authorities for
5 delaying the implementation of the Greenhouse Gas
6 Performance Measure, recognizing Iowa's significant
7 interests in protecting its population and environment
8 from the effects of catastrophic climate change,
9 including increased risks of more frequent and severe
10 heat waves, air pollution, storms and associated
11 flooding, and wildfires; and reduced snowpack levels
12 and water supplies; and

13 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller's work has included
14 filing a lawsuit against the Environmental Protection
15 Agency to challenge its delay of the chemical accident
16 safety rule as arbitrary, capricious, and exceeding its
17 authority under the Clean Air Act; and

18 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller's work has included
19 writing a letter to the United States Secretary of
20 Health and Human Services to request the elimination of
21 federal regulations that restrict states from taking
22 action to combat Medicaid fraud; and

23 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller's work has included
24 filing amicus briefs with the United States Supreme
25 Court in cases challenging the Trump administration's
26 international travel ban, arguing that states benefit
27 from immigration, tourism, international travel,
28 and the free exchange of information, and noting the
29 disruption to states' interests in education, health
30 care, science, technology, and finance; long-term

1 economic and reputational damage; and the difficulties
2 states face in implementing laws and policies regarding
3 religious tolerance and nondiscrimination after such a
4 travel ban; and

5 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller's work has included
6 submitting Freedom of Information Act requests to
7 federal immigration authorities seeking information
8 related to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals
9 program, arrests and detentions of individuals
10 at sensitive locations, and detainer requests and
11 databases; and

12 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller's work has included
13 taking legal action against federal authorities
14 to compel the disbursement of Affordable Care Act
15 cost-sharing reduction reimbursement payments to the
16 states for insured individuals, arguing that such
17 inaction threatens to harm the states, consumers, and
18 health care insurance markets; and

19 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller's work has included
20 filing an amicus brief with the United States Supreme
21 Court in a case contesting the federal authorities'
22 rollback of the Affordable Care Act mandate to provide
23 free contraceptive coverage based on the Religious
24 Freedom Restoration Act, arguing that such a law fails
25 to allow for religious and moral exemptions; and

26 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller's work has included
27 writing letters to the United States Department of
28 Education to contest its assertion that the federal
29 student loan market is exempt from the jurisdiction
30 of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and to

1 protest its efforts to repeal important protections for
2 survivors of sexual assault on college campuses; and

3 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller's work has included
4 filing amicus briefs with the United States Supreme
5 Court in cases involving state limitations on voter
6 rights, arguing that such limitations violate federal
7 law and discourage voter participation; and

8 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller's work has
9 included filing amicus briefs with courts in cases
10 involving LGBTQ discrimination, to include supporting
11 the availability of public accommodations to LGBTQ
12 individuals facing discriminatory policies, opposing a
13 ban on transgender individuals serving in the United
14 States military, and arguing that discrimination by a
15 hospital based on sexual orientation is prohibited by
16 the federal Civil Rights Act; and

17 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller's work has included
18 filing motions to intervene in cases before the United
19 States Supreme Court asserting the fundamental right
20 of workers to engage in union activities under the
21 National Labor Relations Act, opposing employer-imposed
22 limitations on collective legal action, and asserting
23 claims related to minimum wage, overtime, working
24 conditions, and discrimination; and

25 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller's work has included
26 filing amicus briefs with courts in cases involving
27 gun control, to include supporting state prohibitions
28 on large-capacity ammunition magazines, and writing
29 a letter to the United States Congress in opposition
30 to the Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act, arguing that

1 such a law violates the constitutional principle of
2 federalism, endangers communities and law enforcement,
3 promotes the proliferation of gun traffickers,
4 and increases the risk of terrorism and mass gun
5 violence; and

6 WHEREAS, Attorney General Miller's work has included
7 bipartisan intervention in a variety of other issues,
8 including efforts to oppose restrictions on the United
9 States Drug Enforcement Agency's ability to regulate
10 pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors, to
11 support states' rights to collect sales and use taxes
12 from remote retailers, to subject the student loan
13 industry to state law and oversight, to amend federal
14 law to preserve state authority to prosecute sex
15 trafficking, and to oppose the Federal Communications
16 Commission's elimination of consumer broadband
17 protections; NOW THEREFORE,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That
19 the House of Representatives extends its appreciation
20 and offers its collective support to the Iowa
21 Department of Justice and Iowa Attorney General Tom
22 Miller for their past, current, and future efforts to
23 advocate for and protect the interests of Iowans in
24 state-federal relations; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of
26 the House of Representatives shall forward a copy of
27 this resolution to all members of Iowa's Congressional
28 delegation.