



Action Alert

National Climate Change Legislation

To: The following Leagues with congressmen on the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee:

Arlington, Tarrant County – Joe Barton
Plano/Collin County; Sherman/Grayson County – Ralph Hall
Denton, Dallas, Gainesville, Irving, Tarrant County – Michael Burgess
San Antonio Area – Charles A. Gonzalez

Please **fax, email or call** your national congressman regarding the Waxman-Markey bill that is under consideration by the House Energy and Commerce Committee as soon as possible. Please give this information to others in his district for them to write as individuals. (Representative Gene Green, also on the committee, has already been contacted by the Houston League.)

When: NOW

Background:

The Energy and Commerce Committee of the U.S. House is writing a global climate change bill that will come out of committee by Memorial Day -- just three weeks away. The bill that comes out of committee must be the strongest that can be written because we can expect that it will be further weakened on the floor of the House and the Senate during debate.

The bill that is finally passed will have global implications. The UN will sign an agreement to succeed the Kyoto Protocol in Copenhagen this coming December. The strength of the US bill will send a signal to the world about whether the US is now serious about addressing the climate change crisis. Our bill will largely determine the adequacy of the forthcoming global agreement.

The Energy and Commerce bill is under attack from oil, coal, utilities and other corporate interests.

Your representative serves on the Energy and Commerce Committee and needs to hear that you don't want him to weaken the bill so that it sends the signal that the US is still not serious about global climate change.

Points to make include:

- A cap on greenhouse gas emissions for the year 2020 that is at least 25% below 1990 levels and a cap for the year 2050 that is 80-95% below 1990 emissions
- Sufficient funding for developing countries so that they may undertake adaptation measures to cope with climate change impacts and the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions
- Strong incentives to prevent deforestation so that we will have those trees to take in the CO₂ that is emitted
- Rejection of any free pollution allowances

Please visit the LWV-US web site at www.lwv.org for further information.