

**American Rivers * Center for American Progress Action Fund * Center for Biological Diversity
Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future * Clean Water Action * Conservation Law Foundation
Conservation Northwest * Defenders of Wildlife * Earth Day Network * Earthjustice
Environment America * Environmental Defense Fund * Environment Northeast
Interfaith Power & Light * League of Conservation Voters * League of Women Voters
National Audubon Society * Natural Resources Defense Council
Northern Alaska Environmental Center * NC WARN * Physicians for Social Responsibility
Public Citizen * Republicans for Environmental Protection * Safe Climate Campaign
Sierra Club * Southern Environmental Law Center
The Center for the Celebration of Creation * The Wilderness Society
Union of Concerned Scientists * U.S. Climate Action Network
Western Nebraska Resources Council * World Wildlife Fund**

March 14, 2011

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Henry Waxman
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

Dear Chairman Upton and Ranking Member Waxman:

On behalf of the millions of members, activists, and supporters our organizations represent, we urge you to oppose H.R. 910 introduced by Representative Upton (R-MI). This reckless legislation puts America's health, prosperity, and national security at risk by gutting the Clean Air Act, overturning a decision of the Supreme Court, and dismantling the Environmental Protection Agency's ability to address life-threatening carbon dioxide and other pollution.

For 40 years, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has protected our health by cleaning up life-threatening air pollution. This legislation would abolish the EPA's authority to do this critical job, giving big polluters a free pass to spew carbon dioxide and other pollution without limit. Stopping the EPA from doing its job now means more Americans will suffer ill health, not fewer; more clean energy jobs outsourced overseas, and fewer American jobs here at home; and more American dollars spent keeping us addicted to foreign oil.

The Clean Air Act has been successful in reducing dozens of different air pollutants, thereby protecting the health and the environment of millions of Americans—all while contributing to America's economic prosperity. Time and again industry has made dire claims in order to avoid its responsibility for the pollution it pumps into our air. And time and again the industry predictions have proven false. In fact, for every dollar spent, Americans have received 30 dollars in economic benefits in return, making H.R. 910 the equivalent of burning money.

By blocking EPA clean car standards, H.R. 910 also locks Americans into paying billions of dollars more at the pump and locks the nation as a whole into greater dependency on foreign oil. The current vehicle standards made possible by the Clean Air Act will cut our dependence on foreign oil by about 1.8 billion barrels, clean up the air we breathe, save consumers \$3,000 over the lifetime of the vehicle, and keep tens of billions of dollars here in our economy rather than being sent overseas for oil. EPA's vehicle standards are saving 25 percent more oil and providing nearly \$60 billion more in savings at the pump than fuel economy standards alone. At a time when every dollar counts and we continue to send billions of dollars to hostile regimes, we should be finding ways to repeat the success of the clean car peace treaty, not stand in its way.

Most importantly, H.R. 910 would condemn millions of Americans to increased health threats. Medical professionals, public health organizations, and overwhelming scientific evidence all agree that carbon pollution is a serious public health issue. From more extreme heat, worsened air quality and degradation of food and water supplies, to increases in respiratory illnesses and catastrophic weather events, unchecked carbon pollution exposes more Americans—and populations around the world—to illness and death.

Once again, we urge you to oppose H.R. 910. Doing so means standing up for our health, our economy, and our environment. After decades of delay, the American people deserve the cleaner air, better health, and saved lives that can be made possible by the Clean Air Act.

Cc.

Members of the Committee on Energy & Commerce