



News Release

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Kerry, Lieberman: American Power Act Bill Will Secure America's Energy, Climate Future

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senators John Kerry (D-Mass.), Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, and Joe Lieberman (I-Conn.), Chairman of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, today released the details of their comprehensive energy and climate change legislation that will create jobs, strengthen America's energy independence, safeguard our national security, and restore our global economic leadership for decades to come.

“The American Power Act will finally change our nation's energy policy from a national weakness into a national strength,” said Senator Kerry. “We can finally tell the world that America is ready to take back our role as the world's clean energy leader. This is a bill for energy independence after a devastating oil spill, a bill to hold polluters accountable, a bill for billions of dollars to create the next generation of jobs, and a bill to end America's addiction to foreign oil and protect the air our children breathe and the water they drink. The path to 60 votes in the Senate has been long, but despite Washington conventional wisdom, we are closer than ever to a breakthrough. Two Congresses ago, we had 38 votes for energy and climate legislation. Last Congress we had 54 Senators prepared to vote yes. Now we're asking this Senate to hold a debate and insist on a vote again, with a fundamentally new policy approach that should secure bi-partisan support. This is the time. We have a House bill already passed. We have a never-before-seen coalition from across America, including key stakeholders

embracing energy and climate legislation for the first time ever. They aren't giving up, they're doubling down. They understand this isn't a choice, it's a necessity, and we're going to get it done this year."

"The American Power Act is fundamentally different from previous energy and climate bills – and not just because it will be the one that actually passes," said Senator Lieberman. "Our bill will create jobs and transform the American economy; make our country more energy independent, which in turn will strengthen our national security; and improve the quality of the air we breathe. We are proud to have support from a growing and unprecedented coalition of business, national security, faith, and environmental communities, who are energized to work hard to pass this bill this year. America has a lot to gain from getting started now."

Senators Kerry and Lieberman will hold a press conference at 1:30 pm today in Dirksen 419 to roll out their legislation. This release and all attached materials are embargoed until today at 1:30 p.m.

The full text of the bill will be available after 1:30 pm at kerry.senate.gov.