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Local Families Launch Campaign to Connect Senator Brown's vote to Gut the Clean Air Act to \$1.9 Million in Fossil Fuel Industry Campaign Support

Raucous Friday Rally at Brown's Boston Office is accompanied by crowd-funded ads in Boston T Stops

BOSTON, MA: Starting Friday at 12pm, as a 15 foot puppet of Scott Brown alongside two fat cats named "Coal" and "Oil" were hoisted into the air, more than 50 mothers, kids, and community members gathered in front of Scott Brown's office to decry his vote to gut the Clean Air Act.

Rally attendees held up a jumbo version of an ad they funded soon to be plastered across Boston T stops, the text read: "Senator Brown: On April 6th you voted to gut the Clean Air Act. Was it because dirty energy companies and their corporate front groups poured more than \$1.9 million into your campaign last year? Are you working for people or Big Polluters?"

Vanessa Rule, a Somerville resident and mother of two organizing the rally explains the importance of both the ads and the action in front of Brown's office: "As a mother of a child with asthma, I find it unacceptable that Scott Brown voted to gut the Clean Air Act," said Rule. "We want to know if he took that vote because of the 1.9 million dollars Big Polluters spent to support his election."

Rally attendees started in front of Scott Brown's office at 15 New Sudbury St, and continued on a march through Quincy market to spread the word on Brown's vote, with the puppets rising far above the raucous attendees.

"This isn't about partisan politics, it's about accountability. Scott Brown should be representing his constituents, and this vote to undercut the Clean Air Act put the interests of big polluters, like coal plants, over our families. It was unacceptable," said Josh Lynch of Jamaica Plain, MA.

The ads targeting Brown's vote will appear in Boston T stops in the next two weeks. Both actions are part of a nationwide backlash against politicians that recently voted to gut the Clean Air Act, with residents of Ohio taking similar actions against Senator Sherrod Brown (D, OH).

Every year, pollution from coal-fired power plants causes 251 deaths in Massachusetts, not to mention countless asthma attacks. The Clean Air Act is the only protection communities have in combating the pollution from coal plants, which includes arsenic, lead, mercury, and carbon pollution that lead to climate change.

According to OpenSecrets.org, the fossil fuel industry and related front groups poured over 1.9 million dollars into Scott Brown's election in 2009.

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