

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 17, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Boehner
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Reid, Senator McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, and Representative Boehner:

As Governor of the state that took the lead in the landmark Supreme Court case *Massachusetts v. EPA*, I write to encourage you to stand with the Commonwealth in support of energy independence, clean energy jobs, and a strong national climate program, and in opposition to efforts to block the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

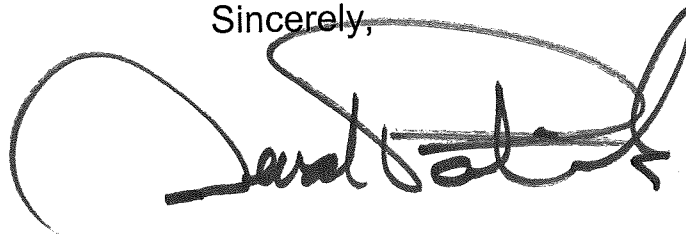
In the 2007 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the gases that cause global warming are pollutants under the Clean Air Act. The court also found that the Environmental Protection Agency has the authority to regulate carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gases. In 2009, following the Court's directive and after a thorough scientific review, the Environmental Protection Agency declared carbon dioxide and five other heat-trapping gases to be pollutants that endanger public health and welfare.

The mission of the EPA is to protect human health and to safeguard the natural environment - air, water and land - upon which life depends. The agency is making sound science-based decisions, using authority within the Clean Air Act as confirmed by the Supreme Court, to address the threat of climate change.

Furthermore, the benefits of taking action to address climate change – creating clean energy jobs, fostering energy independence, and reducing pollution – are clear. Overturning the EPA's authority to reduce greenhouse gases would be a step backward on all these fronts.

I respectfully urge you to reject efforts to overturn EPA's global warming endangerment finding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Palin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "S" and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

cc: Sen. John Kerry
Sen. Scott Brown
Cong. Barney Frank
Cong. Michael Capuano
Cong. William Delahunt
Cong. Stephen Lynch
Cong. Ed Markey
Cong. Jim McGovern
Cong. Richard Neal
Cong. John Olver
Cong. John Tierney
Cong. Niki Tsongas