



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

LEGISLATIVE ALERT

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Stop Anti-Energy Climate Change Policies

This week, it is likely the Senate will debate and vote on SA 3546, an amendment introduced by Senators John McCain (R-AZ) and Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) to an unrelated measure. The amendment would require the United States to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 2000 levels by 2010 (a 14 percent reduction compared to current emission trends). In addition, utilities would be forced to reduce CO₂ emissions by nearly as much as required by the Kyoto Protocol.

Because legislation that attempts to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions limit the United States' energy use and stymies economic growth Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) strongly opposes SA 3546.

The policies proposed by Senators Lieberman and McCain to limit CO₂ emissions do nothing to protect the environment; they do, however, create huge costs for consumers. In addition, climate change policies restrict America's access to the hydrocarbon fuels that supply 70 percent of our electricity and 84 percent of all our energy needs.

Supporters of SA 3546 use outlandish predictions of rapid sea-level rise, insect-borne disease epidemics, and temperature increases up to 10 degrees Fahrenheit, to force policy makers to pass climate change policies. **Their ultimate goal is to force the United States to accept the Kyoto Protocol's environmental provisions as facts.**

Policies to limit CO₂ emissions are unwarranted given the fact that the scientific case for global warming alarmism has collapsed. Moreover, the policies do nothing to address the potential problem of global warming. In fact, no domestic limits on CO₂ currently being debated prevent any measurable slowing of the rise of greenhouse gases globally.

The Senate has already voted unanimously to reject the protocol in its entirety. SA 3546 should not provide a back door to include damaging environmental provisions that do little for the environment, but have the potential to cripple the United States' economy.

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