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National Climate Tax Passes Senate Committee, Despite Republican Boycott

Complete lack of bi-partisanship from Sen. Boxer should have Senate Dems Concerned

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Despite not having a single Republican present during Thursday’s Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee mark-up of the Boxer-Kerry climate tax bill, Senator Boxer, D-Calif. used her Majority’s power to force the legislation through.

Senator Max Baucus, Democrat ranking member on the Senate Finance Committee, was the sole level head in the room opposing the legislation and voting “no.” Why? Sen. Baucus feels the carbon reduction levels are far too strict.

The Republican boycott meant no changes could be made and no amendments could be considered to the legislation. Sen. Baucus will now have to wait until his Committee takes up consideration of the bill – no timetable for that has been set.

When asked what this means for the future of the taxing legislation that is expected to cost 2.5 million jobs and raise every American’s energy costs by thousands of dollars, Grover Norquist, President of Americans for Tax Reform said, **“backroom deals where packages are rammed through with no transparency seem like business as usual – didn’t America elect a guy that was supposed to stop that?”**

The lack of transparency Norquist refers to is echoed by EPW Ranking Republican James Inhofe of Oklahoma who wants a full economic impact analysis from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) before he would consider the bill.

ATR notes on their [website](#) the economic impact this would have on the nation’s oil refineries, claiming this bill will increase the cost per barrel \$0.50 to \$1.20: an average increase of 20% to 50%. Additionally, by 2030, the costs would increase to \$14.80 to \$32.00 billion – per barrel increase of \$2.70 to \$7.20, which is a 100%-300% increase.

***National Press & Talk Radio Alert:
To schedule an interview with Grover Norquist
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