



AMERICANS for TAX REFORM

October 22, 2009

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison
284 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kit Bond
274 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Hutchison and Bond:

On behalf of Americans for Tax Reform (ATR), representing millions of tax paying American families, I would like to thank you for your comprehensive analysis of the House-passed Waxman-Markey cap-and-trade legislation. This 1,400 page bill is immensely complex, making it difficult for the average citizen to comprehend. Months after the bill narrowly passed the House, most people are still unsure of how cap-and-trade will negatively affect them financially.

Knowing that the Senate is considering similar legislation, your report, *Climate Change Legislation: A \$3.6 Trillion Gas Tax* breaks down this complicated issue in a manner everyone can understand: a massive tax increase.

Undoubtedly, you are aware of the decline in state gross domestic product passing cap-and-trade would result in. State GDP for Texas and Missouri would decline by \$3,812,700,000 and \$2,637,130,000, respectively. I commend you for taking the lead in the cap-and-trade debate and fighting to educate Americans.

The results of your report are shocking, but not surprising. Were Waxman-Markey to be passed, Americans will be paying upwards of 3.6 trillion dollars in increased transportation costs. As your report notes, this is a figure that cannot be ignored.

Your study highlights an often overlooked sector, transportation, when costs for cap-and-trade are calculated. Nonetheless, the transportation sector is one that touches the lives of every American; your study highlights this important point. With the unemployment rate rising and families struggling to pay the bills, it would be irresponsible to burden American families with higher energy and transportation costs.

In an attempt to hide this ugly fact, the Waxman-and-Markey bill was rushed through the House, 400 pages were added the night before the House vote took place. It is important that everyone at the table is aware of the costs and effects any legislation will have on the economy. Americans for Tax Reform appreciates the work you are doing.

For more information, please contact federal affairs manager Brian Johnson in my office at bjohnson@atr.org or 202.785.0266.

Onward,

Grover G. Norquist
President

cc: All Members of the U.S. Senate

722 12th Street N.W.

Fourth Floor

Washington, D.C.

20005

T:(202)785-0266

F:(202)785-0261

www.atr.org