May 9, 2014

Dear Republican Senator:

On behalf of Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) and millions of taxpayers nationwide, I urge you to oppose the motion to end debate on the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act, the so-called Portman-Shaheen efficiency bill. In what has become par for the course, Majority Leader Harry Reid has once again “filled the tree” ensuring that no Republican amendments will be considered.

This is no way to run a legislative body. Only nine Republican amendments have been voted on since July of 2013.

Democrat political maneuvering has obfuscated the Party’s anti-energy policies in an attempt to fool voters come November. Senate Republicans must fight back against the subversive tactics employed by Majority Leader Reid.

Sen. Reid killed the Shaheen-Portman bill, not Senate Republicans.

America is at an energy crossroads. The shale revolution has unlocked previously unthinkable amounts of oil and natural gas. The EPA is writing unprecedented new regulations for power plants, gasoline content, and state emission content. The White House scuttled the Keystone Pipeline. Oil and natural gas production is down on federal lands. Federal laws prohibit the export of crude oil and inhibit liquefied natural gas exports.

The American people deserve to know, once and for all, where their Senator stands on these energy issues.

By killing the Keystone Pipeline and delaying costly EPA regulations until after elections, Democrats have consistently put politics before policy.

In an April 28 letter to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, Sen. Inhofe writes, “If the EPA had kept the timetable mandated by the President, it would have been obligated to finalize the new rule about six weeks before the 2014 elections. Now, because of EPA’s delay, the proposal will not need to be finalized until well after this election cycle.”

Voting to end debate on the Shaheen-Portman energy bill condones Sen. Reid’s and the White House’s suppressive tactics. Republican Senators should not be complicit in Democrat attempts to hoodwink the American people and should oppose the motion to end debate on the Portman-Shaheen bill.

Sincerely,

Grover Norquist
President