

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 14, 2009

The Honorable Barack H. Obama
President
The White House Office
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

In December 2009, the 15th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change will meet in Copenhagen, Denmark to work on a successor treaty to the Kyoto Protocol. Current negotiations on the treaty indicate that many of its provisions will harm the U.S. economy and we ask that your administration not make any binding commitments to greenhouse gas emission reductions at the Conference.

In 1997, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change adopted the Kyoto Protocol. This treaty was an international agreement on greenhouse gases, and took effect in 2005. The U.S., however, did not ratify the treaty.

Concerned that the Kyoto Protocol exempted developing nations and would impose serious harm to the U.S. economy, the Senate passed by an overwhelming vote of 95-0 the 1997 Byrd-Hagel resolution that warned the Clinton Administration it would not ratify the treaty unless these concerns were addressed. The final language of the Kyoto Protocol did not meet these conditions; therefore, President Clinton did not submit the treaty to the Senate for ratification.

Members of Congress are likewise concerned that the Copenhagen Conference may result in a similar treaty to the Kyoto Protocol. U.S. negotiators should comply with the provisions of the 1997 Byrd-Hagel resolution and refuse to sign any climate change treaty that exempts developing nations, such as China and India, from participation or if the treaty would seriously harm the U.S. economy.

Congress is currently in debate on the issue of climate change. Until Congress resolves the issue, we urge your administration to not sign any political agreement or internationally binding protocol on climate change at the Copenhagen Conference.

Sincerely,

Marsha Blackburn

Marsha Blackburn
Member of Congress

Spencer Bachus

Spencer Bachus
Member of Congress

John Boozman

John Boozman
Member of Congress

Paul Broun

Paul Broun
Member of Congress

Shelley Moore Capito

Shelley Moore Capito
Member of Congress

Mike Coffman

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John Culberson

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Virginia Foxx

Virginia Foxx
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Louie Gohmert

Louie Gohmert
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Michele Bachmann

Michele Bachmann
Member of Congress

Robert B. Aderholt

Robert Aderholt
Member of Congress

Kevin Brady

Kevin Brady
Member of Congress

Dan Burton

Dan Burton
Member of Congress

Jason Chaffetz

Jason Chaffetz
Member of Congress

Michael Conaway

Michael Conaway
Member of Congress

Geoff Davis

Geoff Davis
Member of Congress

Trent Franks

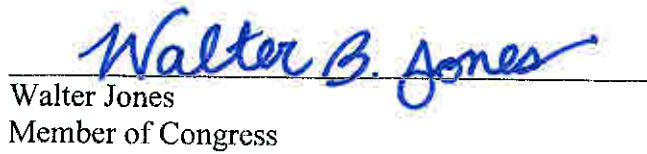
Trent Franks
Member of Congress

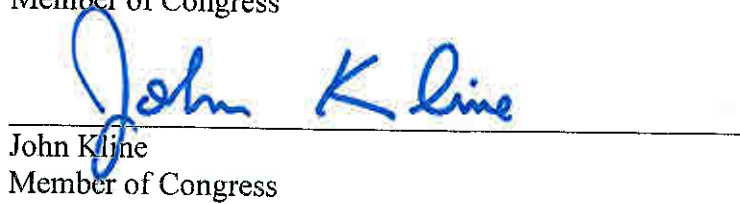
Bob Goodlatte

Bob Goodlatte
Member of Congress

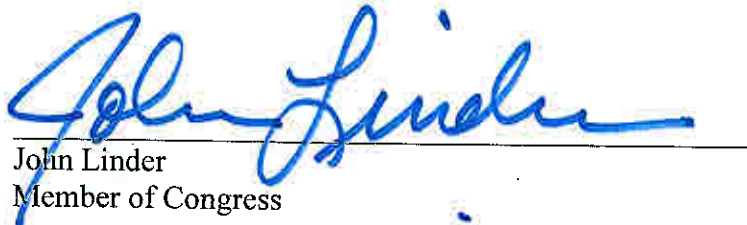

Wally Herger
Member of Congress


Sam Johnson
Member of Congress


Walter Jones
Member of Congress

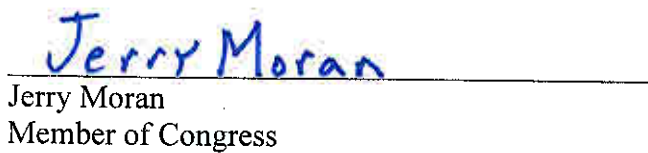

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Member of Congress


Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress


John Linder
Member of Congress

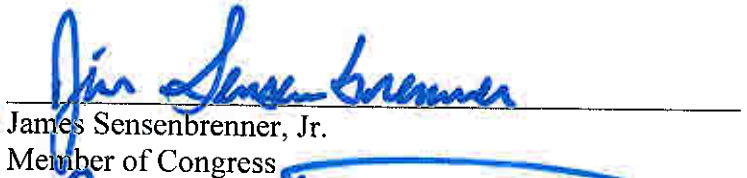

Cynthia Lummis
Member of Congress


Gary Miller
Member of Congress

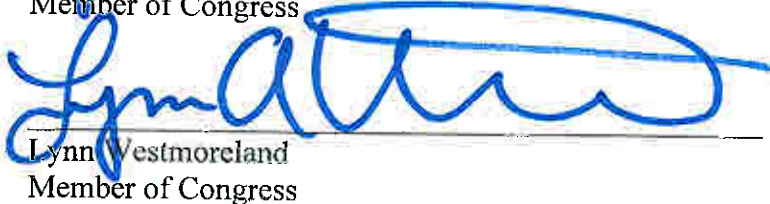

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