

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3221

OFFERED BY MR. GILCHREST OF MARYLAND

At the end of title IX, add the following new subtitle
(and conform the tables of contents accordingly):

1 **Subtitle G—Declaration on Global**
2 **Climate Change**

3 **SEC. 9511. DECLARATION ON GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

5 (1) there is a need for the United States to ad-
6 dress global climate change through the prompt en-
7 actment of national legislation to slow, stop, and re-
8 verse the growth of greenhouse gas emissions
9 through a market-based, economy-wide policy;

10 (2) a significant and diverse group of major
11 United States companies and environmental groups
12 have jointly recommended the prompt enactment of
13 national legislation to slow, stop, and reverse the
14 growth of greenhouse gas emissions over the shortest
15 period of time reasonably achievable;

16 (3) in June 2005, the United States National
17 Academy of Sciences joined with the scientific acad-
18 emies of ten other countries in the United Nations'
19 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in stat-

1 ing that “the scientific understanding of climate
2 change is now sufficiently clear to justify nations
3 taking prompt actions”;

4 (4) the best available scientific and economic
5 data indicates that, to avoid catastrophic impacts of
6 climate change, the United States and the inter-
7 national community must stabilize global atmos-
8 pheric greenhouse gas concentrations between 450
9 parts per million and 550 parts per million by 2050;

10 (5) the United States does not currently have
11 available a suite of commercially deployable energy
12 technologies that can replace or reduce the use of
13 fossil fuels which contribute to the increase of green-
14 house gas in our atmosphere, and this technology
15 will be necessary to achieve this emissions reduction
16 goal;

17 (6) a new carbon-based energy market can
18 stimulate the necessary capital investment to create
19 and distribute new energy technologies;

20 (7) each year that the United States delays the
21 establishment of such a market could increase con-
22 sumer costs for mitigating greenhouse gas impacts,
23 as well as increase the risk of unavoidable con-
24 sequences that could necessitate even steeper and
25 more costly reductions in the future;

1 (8) the scale of the undertaking to address cli-
2 mate change is enormous, and should not be under-
3 estimated;

4 (9) in order for this issue to be successfully ad-
5 dressed, the way the United States produces and
6 uses energy must fundamentally change, both na-
7 tionally and globally;

8 (10) addressing climate change will require
9 technological innovation and products that will cre-
10 ate new energy markets, create economic oppor-
11 tunity in the United States and for United States
12 companies abroad, increase the United States' inter-
13 national competitiveness, and reduce reliance on for-
14 eign sources of energy; and

15 (11) the United States should take the lead in
16 global action to address climate change on an inter-
17 national scale because United States leadership is
18 essential for establishing an equitable and effective
19 international policy framework for robust action by
20 all major emitting countries.

21 (b) DECLARATION OF CONGRESS.—Congress declares
22 that—

23 (1) the United States needs a mandatory, flexi-
24 ble climate program, including—

1 (A) a registry of greenhouse gas emissions,
2 reductions, and sequestrations;

3 (B) mandatory approaches to reduce
4 greenhouse gas emissions from the major emit-
5 ting sectors including emissions from large sta-
6 tionary sources, transportation, and energy use
7 in commercial and residential buildings that
8 could be phased in over time, setting near-,
9 mid-, and long-term time horizons;

10 (C) a flexible policy that includes an emis-
11 sions cap that would allow market forces to set
12 a price signal for carbon that may vary by eco-
13 nomic sector, including—

14 (i) incentives for early action;
15 (ii) performance standards;
16 (iii) cap-and-trade;
17 (iv) tax reform;
18 (v) incentives for technology research,
19 development, and deployment; or

20 (vi) other appropriate policy tools; and

21 (D) a policy that creates incentives and en-
22 courages action by other countries, including
23 large emitting economies in the developing
24 world, to implement greenhouse gas emission
25 reduction strategies; and

1 (2) a United States climate change program
2 should—

3 (A) be designed to achieve the goal of lim-
4 iting global atmospheric greenhouse gas con-
5 centrations to a level that minimizes large-scale
6 adverse climate change impacts to human popu-
7 lations and the natural environment, which will
8 require atmospheric greenhouse gas concentra-
9 tions to be stabilized over the long-term at a
10 carbon dioxide equivalent level between 450-550
11 parts per million;

12 (B) establish a mandatory greenhouse gas
13 emission reduction pathway with specific tar-
14 gets that are—

15 (i) between 100-105 percent of to-
16 day's levels within five years of rapid en-
17 actment;

18 (ii) between 90-100 percent of today's
19 levels within ten years of rapid enactment;
20 and

21 (iii) between 70-90 percent of today's
22 levels within fifteen years of rapid enact-
23 ment; and

24 (C) specify an emission target zone aimed
25 at reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at

- 1 least 60 to 80 percent from current levels by
- 2 2050.