



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RICK PERRY
GOVERNOR

June 25, 2009

The Honorable Al Green
U.S. Representative, District 9
U.S. House of Representatives
236 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4309

Dear Congressman Green:

I am writing to strongly urge you to vote against House Resolution 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, authored by Representatives Henry Waxman and Ed Markey. HR 2454 will be nothing short of disastrous for Texans, and constitutes the single largest tax increase in the history of the United States.

There are a number of studies that attempt to quantify the negative effects of HR 2454:

- The Electric Reliability Council of Texas found that wholesale power costs in Texas could rise between \$10 billion and \$20 billion, with each household's monthly bills increasing by \$17 – \$27.
- The National Black Chamber of Commerce (NBCC) estimates that HR 2454 will cause retail electricity rates to rise 7.3 percent by 2015 and 45 percent by 2050. They estimate transportation fuel costs will rise by 12 cents per gallon in 2015 and 59 cents per gallon in 2050.
- The American Petroleum Institute, citing a recent analysis of HR 2454 by the Congressional Budget Office, expects fuel prices to rise 77 cents per gallon for gasoline, 83 cents per gallon for jet fuel and 88 cents per gallon for diesel.
- NBCC expects a "net reduction in U.S. employment of 2.3 million to 2.7 million jobs in each year of the policy through 2030." NBCC also reports, "These reductions are net of substantial gains in 'green jobs.'" Correspondingly, as a result of this bill, wages are expected to decline by up to \$960 per worker per year by 2050, household purchasing power will decline by \$730 per household per year by 2015, and Gross Domestic Product is estimated to decline by \$170 billion by 2015 and \$730 billion by 2050.
- The Comptroller of Public Accounts of Texas estimates Texas could lose between 135,000 and 277,000 jobs by 2012, with the average Texas household paying an additional \$1,136 annually for household goods and services. This amounts to a cost of \$6.9 billion a year to Texas families.

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Texas is the nation's leading energy producer, supplying 20 percent of the nation's oil production, one-third of the nation's natural gas production, a quarter of the nation's refining capacity and nearly 60 percent of the nation's chemical manufacturing. We also have more installed wind generation capacity than any other state and all but four nations. The state's energy industry employs nearly 375,000 Texans, with \$35 billion in total wages. More than half of all private jobs created in the United States last year were created in Texas. You can imagine the devastating impact HR 2454 will have on these jobs and on families, local budgets and our state's budget. From public schools – with more than 4.5 million students – that depend on Permanent School Fund revenues from mineral leases on state lands, to counties in Northeast Texas that are heavily dependent on coal mining revenues, the effect will be felt statewide.

By voting for HR 2454, you will be voting for the largest tax increase and the largest redistribution of wealth in history, as wealth moves from the Midwest and the South to the East and West coasts. I can only hope that you will put the welfare of your constituents above the partisan politics of Washington D.C. and vote what is best for your district and your state. Now is not the time for political gamesmanship, but the time for you to stand up for the millions of middle-class citizens who gave you the responsibility you currently hold.

I respectfully urge you to vote against HR 2454 and protect the citizens of the greatest state in the nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Perry". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rick Perry
Governor

RP:tbp