

I recently wrote a letter to Senator Joe Lieberman imploring him to vote no on the proposed cap and trade bill now before congress. Below is the letter that I received from the senator's office.

June 25, 2009

Dear Mr. Horn:

Thank you for writing to me regarding your opposition to climate change legislation. I respectfully disagree with your position and view climate change as the most important environmental challenge of our time. Climate change is a very serious problem - not just for our environment, but for our economy and our national security, as well - and the way we produce and consume energy is making the problem worse. We need to pass legislation to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and transition to a clean energy economy. To do that, we will have to build a broad coalition.

To succeed, a bill will need diverse support, which means bringing everyone to the table and really listening to what they have to say. We have to sit down with the environmental community, the business community, and the scientific community. We have to talk to Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle about how best to address this crucial issue.

This could be a watershed moment. We have near scientific unanimity that humans are causing climate change, we have a Congress poised to take action, and we have a President pushing for progress. In his inaugural address, President Obama told us "each day brings further evidence that the ways we use energy strengthen our adversaries and threaten our planet." He is absolutely right, and I look forward to working with the President to: (1) promote energy innovation so that we can produce and consume energy more cleanly and efficiently; (2) protect energy consumers from rising power prices; (3) prepare our communities to respond to the impacts of climate change; and (4) create jobs as we transition toward a clean energy economy. I also support including provisions in climate change legislation that would ensure a cap-and-trade system does not increase the deficit. Climate legislation should improve our environment and grow our economy at the same time. In these tough financial times, some have asked whether it makes sense to focus on the environment. The fact is, ignoring climate change until our economic situation improves will ultimately be far more expensive - and destructive - than taking steps to address it now.

Climate change does not just threaten our environment, it endangers our economy and national security, as well. Left unabated, its impacts will ravage coastlines and coastal communities, destroy large swaths of roadways and railways, and seriously degrade land resources and biodiversity. Additionally, climate-induced droughts will cause famine, threatening already scarce resources and further destabilizing developing nations that are unable to quickly adapt. Every day we fail to reform our energy habits, we guarantee the solution will be far more expensive; and if we wait much longer, there may be no solution. If we are able to pass climate change legislation this year, we will ensure the

integrity of our environmental legacy for generations to come. I am working hard to make certain we move toward that important goal. As you may know, on April 17, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a preliminary finding that carbon dioxide emissions harm human health and welfare. Though the finding has not yet been finalized, if and when it is, EPA will be able to regulate greenhouse gas emissions under the Clean Air Act. One option the agency will have for doing so will be to set reduction targets. I believe strongly that cap-and-trade would be the better approach. It allows businesses to comply with reduction targets in the most economically efficient way possible, which, in turn, helps keep American-made goods competitive and keeps energy prices down.

Thank you again for sharing your views and concerns with me. I hope you will continue to visit my website at <http://lieberman.senate.gov> for updated news about my work on behalf of Connecticut and the nation. Please contact me if you have any additional questions or comments about our work in Congress.

Sincerely,

Joseph I. Lieberman, UNITED STATES SENATOR

JIL:vdh

I then wrote back to senator Lieberman with the following.

Dear Senator Lieberman,

As a meteorologist and one who has studied this issue at great length I must respectfully disagree with nearly all of your points. I do agree that to succeed we must listen to all, the environmental and the business communities but especially the scientific. The science shows that there has been no warming for ten years. All data show this. We are in the eighth year of cooling, however carbon dioxide levels continue to rise. There has been no correlation between the two for ten years nor was there any correlation with temperature from the mid 1940's to the late 1970's when the global temperature data show decades of cooling.

I agree this could be a watershed moment but in the wrong direction for the United States and the world.

Mr. Obama was correct when he said "each day brings further evidence that the ways we use energy strengthen our adversaries". But he was wrong when he said "and threaten our planet".

All of your statements about future impacts on our world from human caused temperature rise are forecasts. I have made many thousands of forecasts in my life and I've learned that only by failing do you learn to walk the narrow and error filled road of prediction. Climate modelers are not forecasters. They have no real world experience in making

predictions. They have never known what it is like to fail because their predictions won't verify for 50 to 100 years. If there is no fear of failure there is not limit to what you will forecast. Computer models have many flaws that even the modelers will admit but they also create and maintain careers and funding. A climate model can be tweaked to give you the result you want or need.

I like this quote "If the facts change I will change my opinion, what do you do sir?"

Sincerely,

Art Horn

Unfortunately the senator never saw this email. For some reason when I tried to respond back to the email I received from Joe it was unable to get through and bounced back to me. I tried four times to resend my response but with no luck. It would appear that at least some of those in Washington are not interested in what the people have to say. I did send my letter to senator Lieberman through his website but I have had no indication if it actually got through or if he saw it, I doubt I will. We can only hope that the senate will have the wisdom to vote no on this bill that is nothing but a tax increase and will have negative effects on the nation and the world since we are it's largest economy.