



LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

January 12, 2015

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Oppose H.R. 185, legislation that cripples public protections

Dear Representative,

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) works to turn environmental values into national priorities. Each year, LCV publishes the *National Environmental Scorecard*, which details the voting records of members of Congress on environmental legislation. The *Scorecard* is distributed to LCV members, concerned voters nationwide, and the media.

LCV urges you to vote NO on H.R. 185, the so-called Regulatory Accountability Act that jeopardizes public protections, including safeguards for our air, water, and food. This legislation cripples the rulemaking process, further empowers special interests over the public interest, and undermines many critical existing statutes, such as the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

Counter to the claims of its proponents, this bill further complicates the current rulemaking process. It would add more than sixty new analytical and procedural requirements for already resource-strapped agencies that will only serve to further delay the rulemaking process. Additionally, H.R. 185 requires every agency to adopt the “least costly” alternative. This provision is effectively a “super mandate” that overrides the requirements in twenty-five existing statutes, including the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts. This damaging provision is in the existing Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and has rendered that law completely ineffective. Finally, this legislation greatly expands the power of the courts over rulemakings.

LCV joins a broad coalition opposing this damaging legislation that spans labor, consumer, public health, food safety, financial reform, faith and scientific integrity groups collectively representing millions of Americans across the country.

We urge you to vote NO on H.R. 185, which undermines public safeguards for our air and water, as well as for our food supply, workers, and consumer products. We will strongly consider including votes on this bill in the 2015 *Scorecard*. If you need more information, please call Tiernan Sittenfeld, Sara Chieffo, or Alex Taurel in my office at (202) 785-8683.

Sincerely,

Gene Karpinski
President