



LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

September 12, 2013

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Support S. 1392, a Bipartisan, Commonsense Approach to Energy Efficiency, and Oppose All Anti-Environmental Amendments

Dear Senator:

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 YES on S. 1392, the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act, and to oppose all anti-environmental amendments. The bill implements practical and cost-effective measures to reduce energy usage, saving taxpayers and consumers money, growing the economy, and cutting pollution. By modernizing energy standards in building codes, accelerating the deployment of energy efficient technologies, and strengthening partnerships between federal and state governments, S. 1392 reduces unnecessary energy losses and taps into vast energy savings. The bill also enacts tighter guidelines for energy use by the federal government, the single largest consumer of energy and fuel in the country, saving taxpayer dollars in fiscally tight times.

This bill is based upon broad consensus principles and is the product of years' worth of effort by the legislation's sponsors and the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. However, controversial amendments threaten to undermine the intent of the bill and run counter to the consensus approach that has marked its development. LCV urges you to vote NO on all anti-environmental amendments, including those that would:

- **Block actions to reduce carbon pollution:** We urge you to oppose any amendment that would block efforts by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reduce carbon pollution. Climate-change-fueled extreme weather events, including more intense droughts, wildfires, and floods are harming communities across the nation and we have a responsibility to act on climate change.
- **Deny climate science by blocking the use of the "Social Cost of Carbon":** Oppose all anti-science amendments that force the government to deny the very real impacts of climate change. A growing number of climate change-fueled extreme weather events are already costing taxpayers billions per year. These amendments would effectively block the government from measuring the costs of climate change's impacts and assessing the benefits of limiting carbon pollution. This is just another veiled attempt to give polluters a free pass by preventing the Administration from moving forward with commonsense limitations on carbon pollution.



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- **Support and/or approve the dangerous Keystone XL tar sands pipeline:** Oppose any amendment that supports or legislatively approves the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline. This pipeline would transport the world's dirtiest and most carbon polluting oil through America's heartland to the Gulf Coast for export, in the process threatening the environment and jeopardizing surrounding communities, ecosystems, and watersheds. It is simply another attempt to disregard due process and endanger public health and the environment in order to rush a decision on the dirty and dangerous Keystone XL pipeline.
- **Undermine existing statutes improving federal buildings' energy efficiency and sustainability:** Oppose any amendment that would gut Section 433 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, which sets carbon pollution reduction requirements for new and majorly renovated federal buildings with the ultimate goal of being carbon neutral by 2030.

We urge you to SUPPORT S. 1392, the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act and to OPPOSE all amendments that are counter to the bill's goal of moving our country towards a more sustainable energy future. We will strongly consider including votes on this bill in the 2013 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