



LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

June 22, 2015

United States House
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Oppose H.R. 2042, Rep. Whitfield's "Polluter Protection Act"

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 strongly urges you to vote NO on H.R. 2042, which guts the EPA's ability to set commonsense limits on the amount of carbon pollution power plants can spew into our air. This legislation strikes at the heart of the Clean Air Act and seeks to undermine the most significant step our nation has ever proposed to tackle climate change.

This legislation includes a sweeping and damaging provision that would let Governors simply "opt out" of the national carbon pollution standards. The Clean Air Act is based upon the powerful – and proven – concept of cooperative federalism. The EPA sets goals for states to meet and states get the first shot at crafting state plans to meet those goals. If states fail to act, there is a federal backstop to make sure that every community is protected and that polluters can't just play one state off of another.

This bill would also delay implementation of the EPA's Clean Power Plan until all litigation has been resolved. This is a thinly-veiled delay tactic and, in fact, some of the bill's supporters have projected litigation could last until 2022. There are already procedures in place to allow for a "stay" of a clean air rule for cases that can prove they merit such an action. This provision would delay critical action on climate change until all litigation, no matter how frivolous, is resolved.

LCV urges you to REJECT H.R. 2042 because it blocks climate action, threatens our health, and strikes a central tenet of the Clean Air Act. We will strongly consider including votes on this bill in the 2015 Scorecard. If you need more information, please call my office at (202) 785-8683 and ask to speak with a member of our government relations team.

Sincerely,

Gene Karpinski
President