

Dear Andrew :

Thank you for contacting me regarding your support for the Safe Climate Act (H.R. 5642). I appreciate hearing from you and welcome your input.

As you know, H.R. 5642 would take strong steps to reducing the growth in greenhouse gas emissions with the goal of reducing total emissions beginning in 2011. I am proud to cosponsor H.R. 5642 because I believe that it is time for America to take decisive action on global warming. There is broad consensus among climate experts that the Earth is getting warmer and that human activities are the primary cause. The implications of a warmer Earth are dire—we face sea levels up to 20 feet higher, more severe weather, and the flooding of large coastal areas in the United States and the world. Scientists agree that the window to act on global warming and avoid the more extreme consequences of a warmer Earth is short. The longer we wait, the more painful and costly the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions will be, and the more severe the consequences for the global climate.

H.R. 5642 would cap the emissions of carbon dioxide immediately, with the total level of emissions beginning to shrink by two percent a year in 2011 and by five percent beginning in 2021. Under the bill's schedule of reductions, total emissions would fall to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. This legislation takes a market oriented approach to the problem by allowing the largest emitters to buy and sell carbon dioxide allowances. In doing so, the program engages the innovative and entrepreneurial spirit of the American people to develop cheap solutions to reducing our total emissions. In addition, it directs the Environmental Protection Agency to set federal standards for automobiles that are at least as stringent as the current California standards. Also, it expresses the sense of Congress that the United States should pursue international negotiations on carbon dioxide emissions centered on the framework agreed upon in Kyoto in 1992. Please be assured that I will continue to push the House to take stronger action on climate change.

An on-going job of a Representative in Congress is to help constituents solve problems with federal agencies, access services, or get questions answered fairly and promptly. For this reason, I have designed a "Guide to Constituent Services" which details some of the help my office can provide to you as a constituent. Please know that you can always reach me at (626) 304-2727 or via the website at [www.house.gov/schiff](http://www.house.gov/schiff) which includes an electronic version of the guide.

Again, thank you for your input. I hope you will continue to share your views and ideas with me, and if I can ever be of any additional assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,  
Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress