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JAMES F. CLAYBORNE, JR.

MAJORITY LEADER
STATE SENATOR • 57TH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:

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TECHNOLOGY

Dear [President, Vice-President, Governor, Secretary of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator, Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality, Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change, or Member of Congress]:

We, the undersigned Members of the Illinois General Assembly, hereby express the need for the United States and the State of Illinois to address the problem of global climate change through the adoption of a fair and effective approach that safeguards American jobs, ensures affordable energy for citizens, and maintains America's global competitiveness.

The greenhouse gas emissions of developing countries are rising much more rapidly than the emissions of the United States, and the emissions from China have now surpassed those of the United States. The industries of developing countries also emit a higher carbon intensity than the United States. According to the U.S. Energy Information Agency, every ton of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States is equivalent to three tons in China or India.

Any system to regulate greenhouse gas emissions must not eliminate American jobs and diminish the ability of American industry to compete in the global marketplace. Illinois has already lost over 246,200 manufacturing jobs since 1998. Many of these jobs have been outsourced to developing countries due not only to cheap labor, but also a lack of environmental regulations.

The air that we breathe knows no geographic boundaries. Any further measures that risk driving industry out of Illinois to developing countries will not only cause a further loss of jobs, but will cause an increase in global greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, any system to regulate greenhouse gas emissions must adopt an international component to prevent "emissions leakage" and ensure that emissions do not simply migrate to another state or nation.

Finally, climate change policy must not add to the already high costs of power and gasoline. We must ensure that an adopted regime to reduce carbon emissions does not result in the off-shoring of international trade sensitive industries.

It is the opinion of the undersigned Members of the Illinois General Assembly that a cap and trade program without provisions that will ensure low energy costs and prevent "emissions leakage" will cause irreversible economic damage to this state and nation. We must take environmental matters seriously, but we must do so in a manner that protects the economic security of our industrial and residential consumers, and that provides a global solution to this global issue.

With warmest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

James Clayborne

Joi W. Hutchinson

Carole Pankau

IS

John J. Innes

Dale Pisinger

David Ruedtfeld

Bill Brady

Gay S. Wahl

Lisa M. Dugan

Thomas Bellant

Jenni Ross

William

Dip Koche

Peter R. Buller

Signatories

Toi W. Hutchinson
State Senator • 40th District

Dave Syverson
State Senator • 34th District

Dale Risinger
State Senator • 37th District

Bill Brady
State Senator • 44th District

Lisa M. Dugan
State Representative • 79th District

Reneé Kosel
State Representative • 81st District

David Koehler
State Senator • 46th District

Carole Pankau
State Senator • 23rd District

John O. Jones
State Senator • 54th District

David Luechtefeld
State Senator • 58th District

Gary Dahl
State Senator • 38th District

Thomas Holbrook
State Representative • 113th District

A. J. Wilhelmi
State Senator • 43rd District

Patricia R. Bellock
State Representative • 47th District