



Regional climate group praises House Stewardship bill

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For immediate release

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A climate-action group working with businesses, communities and colleges and universities across the Northeastern US is praising bipartisan action on climate change in the House today.

"Governors, legislatures, cities and towns, and campus and business leaders from our region have been taking the lead on the issue of global warming," said Clean Air - Cool Planet Executive Director Adam Markham, "It's hugely encouraging that representatives from both parties are sponsors of this new bill."

"We hope introduction of the House version of the Climate Stewardship Act is an indication that Washington will soon provide the unifying leadership this country needs," Markham said.

The bill mirrors language in the Senate Climate Stewardship Act (aka the McCain - Lieberman bill) that would gradually reduce U. S. emissions of the primary greenhouse gases to 2000 levels by 2010.

"Many of the businesses, municipalities, and campuses we work with have noted that the tipping point for truly broad action will be national leadership," Markham noted, "because incentives for action will be uniform and clear to all."

Markham added that he hopes representatives from across the Northeast will vote for the measure.

"We know from the work we've done and the people we've talked to that there is truly broad support for action on global warming, particularly in the business community and among cities and towns. In our region in particular," he stressed, "where we have already seen the effects of a changing climate caused by global warming in addition to the health and environmental problems caused by air pollution, the risk is high and the need is great."

In supporting the measure, Clean Air - Cool Planet, which has offices in New Hampshire and Connecticut, cited impacts ranging from damage to the tourism

economy as a result of shorter winters to loss of insurance for Cape Cod homeowners due to sea-level rise and extreme weather.

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