



Consumer Federation of America

1620 I Street, N.W., Suite 200 * Washington, DC 20006

August 2, 2007

Dear Representative:

The Consumer Federation of America (CFA) urges the House to pass H.R. 3220, a vital step towards a sound energy policy that lowers consumer costs, improves national security, and protects our environment.

H.R. 3220 addresses the burden that rising energy prices place on consumers and the economy, as well as the burden that increased energy consumption places on the environment. It promotes the use of alternative fuels, establishes higher efficiency standards for appliances, provides assistance to low income families and rural areas (the hardest hit by rising energy prices), and gives small businesses economic incentives to improve energy efficiency.

The legislation lays the groundwork for the U.S. to take leadership in the global effort to deal with climate change by creating dedicated programs to make it a policy focus across several areas of government. This groundwork includes promoting clean energy exports to major emitters, and taking the lead in carbon emission reductions by inventorying opportunities and providing incentives to improve our ability to reduce carbon emissions.

It funds many of these programs by closing tax loopholes enjoyed by oil companies and ensuring that the federal government collects all due royalties from oil companies drilling on federal lands.

CFA also applauds the inclusion in this bill of the Energy and Commerce Committee's new efficiency standards for appliances and opposes any amendments to strike or weaken the regional standards provision (Section 9004).

For the sake of American consumers, national security, and our environment, it is critical to pass H.R. 3220.

Sincerely,

Travis Plunkett
Legislative Director

Mark Cooper
Research Director