



Climate Stewardship Act of 2005

S. 342

Introduction

The bill, first introduced in the Senate on January 9 2003 by Sen. Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) and Sen. John McCain (R-AZ), calls for scientific research into abrupt climate change and a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. It was reintroduced for the 109th Congress on February 10, 2005.

Status

In the 108th Congress, the bill was twice referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and twice discharged to the full Senate. In the end, the measure went to the floor and was defeated by a vote of 55-43. It was referred to the Environment and Public Works Committee again in the 109th Congress.

Provisions

- Establishes a scholarship program and research grants for studying global climate change through observation, analysis, modeling, paleoclimatology, consequences and adaptation.
- Requires research studies by various U.S. government agencies on barriers to the transfer of technologies from federal laboratories, the impact of U.S. ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, the impact of abrupt climate change on US industry and its ability to compete globally.
- Establishes a national system, with assistance from appropriate Federal agencies, to track and monitor greenhouse gas emissions in the US.
- Establishes a National Greenhouse Gas Database to collect, verify and analyze information on greenhouse gas emission in the US.
- Calls for a report to be submitted by greenhouse gas producers explaining their greenhouse gas emissions for the past year.
- Establishes a system of reducing greenhouse gas emissions through a market driven approach. Thus, for example, major producers of greenhouse gases would be limited to a certain amount of emissions but allowed to trade "allowances" off with other big producers in the form of credits.
- Allows greenhouse gas producers to take credits form the following year to increase their credit limit for the current year.
- Establishes civil penalties for failure to meet emission requirements.

What We Do

Citizens for Global Solutions is actively supporting passage of this bill in the Senate.