



1130 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 300
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 331-8500
Fax (202) 331-1598

FOUNDING MEMBERS

Sacramento County, CA
Santa Ana, CA
Sonoma County, CA
Stamford, CT
Charlotte County, FL
Miami-Dade County, FL
Story County, IA
Wyandotte, MI
High Point, NC
Nassau County, NY
James City County, VA
King County, WA
Snohomish County, WA
Tacoma, WA
Whatcom County, WA

May 30, 2008

Re: *Climate Communities* Coalition Supports Passage of Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act & Commends Support for Local Government Action

Dear Senator:

On behalf of local governments across America, we write to urge you to support the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act.

Climate change is a critical national and global challenge that could lead to an increasing number of droughts, greater risk of wildfires, more flooding, rising sea levels, damage to infrastructure, severe weather events, threats to national security, and economic hardship. By addressing the climate challenge, this legislation will help America achieve some of its most important national objectives – energy independence and national security, economic competitiveness and job creation, protection of public health and the environment, and sustainable community development.

This legislation recognizes the central role of local governments in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to the impacts of climate change.

As you know, local government action is critical to addressing America's climate change challenge. Cities, counties and metropolitan regional organizations have the ability to promote, encourage and lead the effort to reduce carbon pollution. Localities are uniquely suited to implement land use planning, building codes, infrastructure improvements, green technology, sustainable economic development and other local actions that must underlie climate change progress. Local and metropolitan governments are also the first responders to the impacts of climate change.

The Boxer-Lieberman-Warner Substitute to the Climate Security Act creates a national response to the climate challenge using an innovative, market-driven approach. With respect to the role of local governments, the legislation provides resources for energy efficiency and conservation block grants, public transit and traffic-reduction projects, and eligibility for community forestry projects as domestic offsets.

The Climate Communities coalition is a national coalition of cities, counties, towns, local utilities, metropolitan planning organizations, councils of government, and other local government entities seeking to address the climate challenge and promote federal support for local action.

Again, Climate Communities endorses the Boxer-Lieberman-Warner Substitute for the Climate Security Act as an important and positive step toward America's endeavor to address the climate challenge. We urge you

to support this important legislation. We look forward to working with you to develop an effective local-federal partnership to address climate change.

Sincerely,



Roger Dickinson
Supervisor
Sacramento County, CA
Climate Communities Co-Chair



Larry Phillips
Councilmember
King County, WA
Climate Communities Co-Chair