



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF  
OCCUPATIONAL AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL MEDICINE



April 5, 2011

The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the undersigned public health and medical organizations, we urge you to maintain your support for public health and oppose efforts by Congress to include policy riders that prevent implementation and enforcement of critical health and environmental safeguards.

Through legislation such as H.R. 1, Congress has proposed draconian cuts to key health prevention programs. Riders that weaken the Clean Air Act will result in further adverse health outcomes including: cancer, asthma attacks, heart attacks, strokes, emergency department visits, hospitalizations and premature deaths.

The public strongly opposes any attempt by Congress to block the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) efforts to implement the Clean Air Act. The results of a recent bipartisan survey indicate that those pushing riders are out of touch with the voters. The survey shows that nearly seventy percent of voters believe EPA should update Clean Air Act standards with stricter limits on air pollution and nearly seventy percent believe that EPA scientists, rather than Congress, should set pollution standards to best protect the public's health.

We ask you to continue to oppose riders to the Continuing Resolution as they will surely strip away sensible Clean Air Act protections that safeguard Americans and their families from air pollution. We thank you for your support and look forward to working with EPA on the continued implementation of this vital public health law.

Sincerely,

T. Warner Hudson, MD  
President  
American College of Occupational  
and Environmental Medicine

Charles Connor  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
American Lung Association



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