



AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION®

Fighting for Air

July 11, 2011

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The Honorable Fred Upton, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Henry Waxman, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Upton and Ranking Member Waxman:

The American Lung Association strongly opposes H.R. 2401, the Transparency in Regulatory Analysis of Impacts on the Nation Act of 2011. This legislation would create additional bureaucracy and review that could delay lifesaving pollution cleanup required by the Clean Air Act. We urge the Committee to reject this legislation.

The Clean Air Act prevents hundreds of thousands of adverse health effects caused by air pollution, including asthma attacks, heart attacks and even premature deaths each year. EPA's recent report *The Benefits and Costs of the Clean Air Act from 1990 to 2020* found that cutting pollution through the Clean Air Act will save \$2 trillion and prevent at least 230,000 deaths annually by 2020. Last month, OMB reported to Congress on the benefits and costs of major regulations and found that the benefits of Clean Air Act regulations vastly exceeded the costs. The OMB report shows annual benefits ranging from \$82-551 billion at a cost that ranges from \$23-29 billion. In fact, in its annual reports to Congress under both Republican and Democratic Administrations, the OMB has consistently found EPA's air programs to be among the most cost effective.

Further, the implementation of the Clean Air Act provides ample opportunity for all interested parties to provide meaningful and substantial comments. EPA currently assesses the costs of regulations in the development of each rule. EPA provides a Regulatory Impact Analysis for regulatory actions, makes all of them easily available to the Congress and the public, and includes their analysis in the rulemaking process. In addition, the Office of Management and Budget reviews all significant rulemakings and manages the interagency review process.

Furthermore, we oppose cutting the authorization for the Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) as an offset for this legislation. We strongly support the DERA program and the lifesaving benefits resulting from the cleanup of older, dirty diesel engines.

The redundant review of Clean Air Act protections required in H.R. 2401 could serve to delay safeguards that are long overdue including the rules to reduce toxic air pollution, curb interstate air pollution and set air quality health standards based on the best science. These rules are estimated to prevent tens of thousands of premature deaths and hundreds of thousands of asthma attacks each year. We strongly urge the Committee to reject H.R. 2401 and instead work to support the continued implementation of this vital law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "CD Connor".

Charles D. Connor
President & CEO

cc. Members Committee on Energy and Commerce