

A Sampling of Supportive Statements About the Boxer-Lieberman-Warner Substitute to the Climate Security Act (S. 3036)

Multi Group Letter

Lee Califf, Director, Government Affairs, Alcoa
Yvonne McIntyre, Vice President, Calpine Corporation
Elizabeth Thompson, Legislative Director, Environmental Defense Action Fund
Betsy Moler, Executive Vice President, Government and Enviro Affairs, Exelon Corporation
Chris Bennett, Executive Vice President, FPL Group
Ann Klee, Vice President, General Electric
Rev. Canon Sally Bingham, Founder and President, Interfaith Power and Light Campaign
Newton Jones, International President, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers
Scott Kovarovics, Conservation Director, Izaak Walton League of America
Thomas King, Executive Director of Electricity Distribution and Generation, National Grid
Mark Wenzler, Director, Clean Air and Climate National Parks Conservation Association
Jeremy Symons, Executive Director, Global Warming Program, National Wildlife Federation
David Hawkins, Director of Climate Programs, Natural Resources Defense Council
Steven Corneli, Vice President, Marketing and Climate Policy, NRG Energy, Inc.
Phyllis Cuttino, Director, US Global Warming Program, Pew Environment Group
Melissa Lavinson, Director, Federal Environmental Affairs, PG&E Corporation
Eric Svenson, VP of Environment, Health and Safety, Public Service Enterprise Group
Steve Moyer, Vice President for Government Affairs, Trout Unlimited
*William Hite, General President, United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the
Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada*

“The undersigned companies and organizations urge you to vote in favor of the Climate Security Act, S. 3036 (formerly S. 2191), which is expected to be considered by the full Senate beginning June 2. This is a very important vote on a bipartisan plan to address climate change. Prompt action on climate change is essential to protect America’s economy, security, quality of life and natural environment.

... we think it is notable and a testament to the work of the bill’s sponsors and contributors that such a diverse group of interests are united on the following essential issue: A “yes” vote for the Climate Security Act represents historic leadership to advance bipartisan solutions to climate change; a “no” vote will slow progress and maintain the status quo, which only increases the risks of unavoidable consequences and potentially greater economic costs that could result from the need for even steeper reductions in the future.”

Private Enterprise

United States Climate Action Partnership

“While USCAP supports a national, mandatory, economy-wide, cap-and-trade program for greenhouse gases, we have not taken a position on any specific bill. However, USCAP believes that S. 3036 is a welcome step in a process that we hope will lead to the enactment of an environmentally effective, economically sustainable and fair climate change program consistent with the principles included in our *A Call for Action* (see www.us-cap.org).

The manager’s substitute amendment to S. 3036 includes many of the USCAP recommendations

on energy efficiency and geologic carbon capture & sequestration. It also provides a helpful framework on cost containment that is guided by many of the ideas presented in USCAP’s Cost Containment Discussion Paper (released March 20).”

David Crane, CEO and President, NRG Energy

“I am writing to thank you for your bipartisan leadership in addressing climate change, the issue which is, in our opinion, the definitive challenge confronting our generation. On such a complex and comprehensive issue, it is far easier to find fault and say “no” or “not yet” than it is to find solutions and say “yes” to them. Above all, you are to be commended for proposing solutions to the climate crisis, saying “yes, we can,” and actually putting forth a well-considered package of solutions for the entire US Senate to debate, amend as appropriate, and adopt.

In our view, the Boxer Lieberman Warner substitute to the Climate Security Act offers at its core a pragmatic and effective framework for regulating and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We believe that the substitute’s market-based cap and trade framework and complementary policy measures will allow the United States to lead the world in developing and deploying low- and no-carbon technologies, while preserving and ultimately enhancing the nation’s economic well-being.”

Steven Kline, Vice President for Corporate Environmental and Federal Affairs, PGE Corp.

“Since the legislation was reported from the Environment and Public Works Committee, significant further progress has been made – as reflected in the Substitute – on central policy issues in this debate, including those related to containing costs, protecting consumers, advancing renewable energy technologies, and integrating state and federal greenhouse gas emissions trading programs. In light of these significant advancements, we believe it is important for this legislation to move forward during its upcoming consideration in the Senate and we support its passage.

Environmental Entrepreneurs (850 Green Business Leaders)

“As members of Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2), we support the Boxer-Lieberman-Warner Substitute to the Climate Security Act, S. 2191. This bill will invigorate our economy by providing a clear market signal and incentivizing U.S. investment in clean energy technology, alternative transportation technologies and fuels, and advanced energy and resource efficiency.”

Lisa Jacobsen, Executive Director, Business Council for Sustainable Energy

“As Senate consideration of federal, market-based climate change legislation is expected in early June, the Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE or “the Council”) commends the release of the substitute amendment to the Climate Security Act, S. 3036 (formerly S. 2191). The Council views floor consideration of the substitute as an important step in determining the nation’s approach to climate change and demonstrates U.S. leadership on one of the world’s most pressing challenges.

Significant improvements have been made to the legislation since Senate Environment & Public Works Committee consideration of the bill last December. The substitute provides a stronger foundation for existing clean energy technology deployment, which is critical to significantly lowering the cost of compliance with emissions targets for consumers and businesses, enhancing the competitiveness of the U.S. economy and creating millions of new, high quality clean energy jobs.”

Environmental and Conservation Groups

Frances Beinecke, President, Natural Resources Defense Council

“On behalf of our 1.2 million members and activists, when the Boxer-Lieberman-Warner substitute to the Climate Security Act, S. 3036 (formerly S. 2191) is considered by the full Senate, we urge you to support strengthening amendments, oppose all weakening amendments, and vote to pass the bill. If enacted, this bill would start the United States, and the world, on a path to avoiding the most dangerous impacts of global warming.”

Stephanie Meeks, Acting President and CEO, The Nature Conservancy

“In the face of this urgency, we are grateful to you for the work you have done to present to the Senate climate legislation at a scale and scope needed to address the needs of natural and human communities within the U.S. and across the Earth. The amendment provides essential support to states and federal agencies to help local communities, wildlife, and the places they inhabit cope with sea level rise, changing weather and precipitation patterns and other challenges whose early impacts are already being felt. In addition it recognizes opportunities for reforestation, forest protection and other conservation approaches by providing critical resources to efforts that can reduce overall carbon emissions within the United States and around the world.”

Eileen Claussen, President, Pew Center on Global Climate Change

“The Pew Center on Global Climate Change believes the Boxer-Lieberman-Warner substitute amendment to the Climate Security Act of 2008 presents a solid framework for a U.S. greenhouse gas (GHG) cap-and-trade program, and therefore would encourage the Senate to move the bill forward.

We believe the substitute amendment is right on the major issues for climate legislation.”

Religious Organizations

The Reverend Jim Ball, Spokesperson, The Evangelical Climate Initiative

“This bill is the most important piece of climate change legislation in our nation's history and we commend the vital leadership of Senators Warner, Lieberman, and Boxer. We will continue to work with them to be sure there are necessary protections for the poor both here and abroad. It is imperative that our country continue to move forward at the federal level with the enormous task of assuring a safe and healthy energy future. Time is of the essence in protecting God's creation from climate change, and we urge all Senators to support the leadership of Senators Warner and Lieberman.”

Trade Unions

Mark Ayers, President, Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO

“The 13 national and international unions that comprise the Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO, and their approximately 2.5 million members are pleased to endorse the Boxer Substitute Amendment to the Lieberman – Warner Climate Security Act. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your leadership in addressing one of the most pressing problems of our time.

This crucial legislation, with the changes contained in your Substitute Amendment, will promote clean- energy infrastructure investments while providing enormous economic opportunity for thousands of highly skilled building and construction trades workers, and result in meaningful progress toward combating global warming.”

William Hite, General President, United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada

“On behalf of the 340,000 members of the United Association of Plumbers, Pipefitters, HVAC Service Techs, and Sprinklerfitters, I thank you for addressing one of the most critical issues facing this country and the world as a whole, Climate Change. We are pleased to endorse the Boxer Substitute to the Lieberman-Warner Climate Change Bill at this time.”

State and Local Governments

Tom Cochran, CEO, United States Conference of Mayors

“On behalf of The United States Conference of Mayors, I want to thank you for your strong leadership on the issue of global climate protection and to convey the Conference of Mayors’ strong support for your substitute amendment to the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act (S. 2191). We support passage of your proposed legislation, which, if enacted, will move the country toward making systematic reductions nationwide in U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.”

Andrew Ginsberg and Ursula Kramer, Co-Presidents, National Association of Clean Air Agencies

“On behalf of the National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA), the association of air pollution control agencies in 53 states and territories and over 165 metropolitan areas across the country, we commend you for introducing the Boxer-Lieberman-Warner Substitute to the *Climate Security Act*.

We are extremely pleased that the substitute is consistent with most of NACAA’s Global Warming Principles, adopted in May 2007, in which the association calls for “a mandatory economy-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction program with quantifiable and enforceable limits,” and “interim milestones, including short, medium and long-term GHG emission reduction targets,” that will “reduce U.S. GHG emissions substantially below current levels.”

Other Groups

Raymond C. Offenheiser, President of International Aid and Development Organization, Oxfam America

‘We applaud the efforts of Senator Boxer to advance the Climate Security Act. This landmark piece of legislation is a significant step forward in Congressional action on climate change. We especially appreciate Senator Boxer’s leadership on addressing the human impacts of climate change, which pose one of the greatest threats in the 21st century to the lives and livelihoods of billions of people who live in poverty.