

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

April 6, 2006

The Honorable George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Richard Cheney
Eisenhower Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Vice-President,

In recent months, Democrats and Republicans and stakeholders from across the country have called out for decisive action and leadership to break America's dependence on foreign oil. Last week, Democrats joined together to reaffirm our commitment to energy independence as one of the keys to real security for our nation.

We agree with your observation in the State of the Union address that we are "addicted to oil" and must do more to end that addiction. This is an issue that we can and should work together on to make America more secure, protect consumers, promote innovation and investment in our economy and create new jobs. We believe that developing a serious, long-term strategy to curb our nation's dangerous dependence on oil is long-overdue. As such, we ask that you join with us in quickly convening an emergency bipartisan national energy summit.

The summit would be designed to produce solutions to move America forward more quickly on a path toward greater energy independence and security. The summit would have representation from all facets of American life, including oil companies, automakers, alternative fuel producers, consumers, scientists, environmentalists, transportation experts, state and local leaders, and be open and transparent to the public in a free-flowing format.

Given the rapidly evolving global economy and the national security-related challenges we face at the dawn of the 21st Century, it is abundantly clear that a 19th Century approach to our national energy strategy will simply not suffice. Your involvement and cooperation is crucial if we are to forge a bipartisan consensus to incorporate the best in efficiency technologies, and tackle in a thoughtful way the crucial infrastructure challenges we face in transitioning to a broader array of alternative fuels.

Similarly, a growing chorus of former national security officials from Republican and Democratic Administrations alike, economists, national consumer and public interest groups, and environmental organizations have all called for a serious plan to address America's growing dependence on oil. This national energy summit would take advantage of this growing sentiment and mark an important first step on the path toward greater energy independence.

Securing our nation's energy future is among the biggest economic and national security challenges faced by our generation. The status quo—in which the security of the United States and the vitality of our domestic economy is left to the whims of foreign regimes and companies that may not have the best interests of our nation at heart—is simply not an option. How your Administration and Congress rise to meet this challenge will be one of the most important tests on which future generations of Americans will come to measure our leadership and resolve.

We hope you will join us in urgently convening a bipartisan national energy summit. We stand ready to work with you to develop a serious and sustainable national strategy to curb America's dangerous dependence on oil.

Sincerely,

Garry Keid

Nancy Pelosi

Dick Durbin

Stefan

Mary McCormack

James E. Doyle

Tom F. Kelly

John B. Rumsfeld

Hillary Rodham Clinton

John H. Sununu

Jack Reed

Ken Salzman

Marcell O Feingold

Bill De

Jim Hill

Non Wyan

Em Bayh

Chris Dodd

Joe Biden

Jim Jeffords

Edward J. Markey

EMIL ENSH

Don Wickersham

Barry Jordan

SLP Ryan

Barry Snyck

Bobby L. Rush

Patience

Bubba Byer

Robert A. Mchurki

Chuck Schum

Jan Schumsky

Robert C. Byrd

Jerry Baldwin

Byron L. Sanger

Tom Allen

Robert Meneagy

Diana White

Jay Robinson

Hilda L. Solis

Hent Kent

Lois Capps

Wm G. Shoo

Mike Row

Debbie Steneaw

Wanda A. Jorgels

Patty Murray

Mid Day

Jeff P. King

Albert R. Cady

Tom Harkin

Frank Pallone, Jr.