



---

## SENATOR CLAIRE MCCASKILL FIGHTING FOR AMERICAN ENERGY SECURITY

---



**Stood Up For Missouri Manufacturers and Energy Consumers During Climate Change Debate.** During the debate in Congress on legislation to address climate change, Sen. McCaskill consistently stood up and protected the interests of Missouri's manufacturers and energy consumers by insisting that any attempt to curb global warming include adequate protections for coal-dependent states like Missouri. For example, in 2008 McCaskill sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) and Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) warning that she could not support Sen. Boxer's cap-and-trade bill because the bill failed "to ensure that consumers and workers in all regions of the U.S. are protected from undue hardship." In her letter, McCaskill laid out eight principles that any climate change legislation must address in order to win her support: contain costs and prevent harm to the U.S. economy; invest aggressively in new technologies and deployment of existing technologies; treat states equitably; protect America's working class; protect U.S. manufacturing jobs and strengthen international competitiveness; fully recognize agriculture and forestry's role; clarify federal/state authority; and provide accountability for consumer dollars.

**Supported Delaying Regulation of Power Plant Emissions By Two Years.** Sen. McCaskill has consistently supported delaying new regulations on greenhouse gas emissions from power plants in order to give industry and regulators time to develop an approach that will protect manufacturing states and states reliant on coal for energy from unfair and damaging rate increases. In 2010 and again in 2011, Sen. McCaskill cosponsored the Stationary Source Regulation Delay Act, legislation that would delay for two years the Environmental Protection Agency's regulation of greenhouse gas emissions from major stationary sources like power plants. In April 2011, McCaskill voted in favor of an amendment based on the Stationary Source Regulation Delay Act, which was supported by a broad coalition of 24 industry organizations, including the American Farm Bureau Federation, the American Petroleum Institute, the American Iron and Steel Institute, the Missouri Forest Products Association, the National Association of Manufacturers, the National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors, the National Mining Association, the National Petrochemical & Refiners Association, the Fertilizer Institute and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

**Supported Efforts to Reduce America's Dependence on Foreign Oil.** Throughout her time in the U.S. Senate, Sen. McCaskill has supported efforts to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil. In 2007, McCaskill supported the Energy Independence and Security Act, legislation intended to decrease the demand for foreign oil by investing in alternative fuels and making automobiles more fuel efficient. Thanks in part to McCaskill's support, this bill was signed into law in December 2007.

**Increased the Renewable Fuel Standard.** In 2007, Sen. McCaskill supported the Renewable Fuel Standard passed by the Senate. Under the new standard, 36 billion gallons of renewable fuel will be in use by 2022. The new standard requires that 15 of the 36 billion gallons of fuel be produced from traditional renewable biofuels like corn-based ethanol and biodiesel, and the remaining 21 billion gallons of fuel be produced from advanced biofuels such as cellulosic ethanol, biobutanol, and fuels produced from unconventional feedstocks. In 2010, U.S. ethanol production replaced more oil than we import from Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, or Russia, Iraq and Kuwait combined.

**Successfully Pushed to Increase the Allowable Ethanol Content in Gasoline.** In 2010, Sen. McCaskill sent a letter to President Barack Obama calling on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to approve the use of E-15 fuel in automobiles. As a result of McCaskill's letter, the Department of Energy completed its testing of E-15 fuel and the EPA granted a waiver increasing the maximum allowable ethanol content in gasoline from 10% to 15%. E-15 fuel has now been approved for use in automobiles model year 2001 and newer.

**Supported Increased Investment in Clean Energy Technology.** Sen. McCaskill has supported legislation to encourage Americans to invest in clean energy technology. In 2008, McCaskill voted in favor of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, which included grants, loans, and tax benefits to encourage research into renewable energy sources and help to make these sources more commercially viable. Also in 2008, McCaskill voted in favor of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act, which extended tax credits for clean energy investment, and authorized bonds for clean renewable energy and conservation programs.

**Supported Increased Production of Renewable Energy.** In 2010, Sen. McCaskill cosponsored the Renewable Energy Electricity Promotion Act of 2010, legislation that would establish a national Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS). Under the RPS standard, utilities would be required to produce at least 15% of their electricity from renewable sources by 2021. Sen. McCaskill also supported the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which provided several incentives to boost renewable energy production.

**Fought to Eliminate Taxpayer Subsidies for Oil Companies.** In 2012, Sen. McCaskill voted in support of the Repeal Big Oil Tax Subsidies Act (S. 2204). The five largest oil companies made an astounding \$137 billion in profits in 2011, with every extra penny paid by families at the pump increasing oil industry profits by another \$200 million. Despite these enormous profits, U.S. taxpayers provide more than \$2 billion in subsidies for the largest oil companies each year.

**Voted to Keep Oil Produced on Public Lands in the United States.** In 2012, Sen. McCaskill voted for the Drill It Here, Keep It Here amendment. This amendment

would have ensured that oil produced on our public lands remained in the United States, driving down gas prices by increasing supply.

**Worked to advance the stalled Keystone XL pipeline project.** By increasing our capacity to import oil from Canada, one of our most reliable trading partners, the pipeline will improve U.S. energy security. In 2012, Sen. McCaskill voted repeatedly to authorize construction of the pipeline. Sen. McCaskill also supported construction of the Flanagan South pipeline in Missouri, which will boost access to regional oil reserves.

**Supported Reigning in the Wall Street speculators that are driving up oil prices.** Sen. McCaskill cosponsored the Energy Markets Emergency Act (S. 2222). This legislation would require the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the agency responsible for regulating energy markets in the United States, to act within 14 days to eliminate the excessive speculation that is driving up oil prices.

**Called for Releasing Oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to Counter Iranian Actions Driving Up Oil Prices.** In 2012, Sen. McCaskill called on President Obama to release oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. In response to the Iranian governments' continued irresponsible pursuit of nuclear technologies, the United States worked with our allies to isolate the regime in Tehran with economic sanctions. The Iranian government responded to these efforts by threatening to disrupt global oil supplies, creating uncertainty and driving up the price of oil. The Strategic Petroleum Reserve was established to respond precisely to situations such as this, where international disruptions drive up prices and threaten the U.S. economy. Historically, releases from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve have typically proven successful in quickly driving down prices at the pump. With the Strategic Petroleum Reserve currently 96 percent full, holding 696 million barrels, we can release oil in an effort to drive down prices while still holding enough in reserve to respond in case of new supply disruptions.

**Demanded an Investigation Into Possible Gas Price Manipulation.** In 2011, reports indicated that U.S. refiners may be cutting back on U.S. gasoline stockpiles in order to artificially keep prices high and inflate their bottom line. In response, Senator McCaskill successfully called for the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to open a full investigation to determine the impact this behavior might be having on gasoline prices.