



# The American Energy Innovation Act (H.R. 2828)

*A joint proposal of the Republican Study Committee  
and the Congressional Western Caucus*

**T**here are two competing visions on energy policy in America today. One leads down a road towards a regressive national energy tax that **intentionally** increases energy prices, restricts economic growth, and aims to dictate and regulate Americans into a new “green” energy future. This “cap-and-tax” energy vision assumes that a massive carbon tax is the only possible solution to create new energy jobs and reduce our carbon footprint.

The Republican Study Committee and Congressional Western Caucus have an alternative vision on energy. This vision looks to innovation, conservation, and production as the means to greater economic prosperity, a cleaner environment, job creation and realistic environmental achievements in the near future. This alternate view on energy is premised on the idea that tax increases never lead to job creation and arbitrary government mandates only stifle American ingenuity. It is based on historical evidence that progress in the environmental arena follows economic prosperity, not the other way around.

The American Energy Innovation Act (H.R. 2828) represents a comprehensive, positive, forward-thinking proposal that will spur the best in American ingenuity and foster market-based approaches to America’s energy needs. The legislation represents a fiscally responsible approach to reducing our dependence on foreign energy, providing a cleaner environment, and putting Americans to work by:

- 1) Encouraging *innovation* within the energy market to create the renewable fuel options and energy careers of tomorrow.
- 2) Promoting greater *conservation* and efficiency by providing incentives for easing energy demand and creating a cleaner, more sustainable environment.
- 3) Increasing the *production* of American energy by responsibly utilizing all available resources and technologies and streamlining burdensome regulations.

Last year, we saw the kind of economic damage inflicted by a rapid rise in energy prices, reinforcing the critical need for policies that promote production of a broad range of domestic energy supplies. With energy prices now starting to creep back up, now is not the time to sit on our hands, let alone enact policies designed to increase energy costs.

H.R. 2828 promotes energy policies that facilitate the production of traditional resources, as well as support the rapid development of market-based alternative energy sources and technologies, provide the path to overcome Americans dynamic energy challenges, all while creating jobs, stemming pollution, and reducing the national debt.

By way of contrast, cap-and-trade legislation dramatically increase taxes on Americans and destroy jobs. One recent study of the Waxman/Markey legislation shows it will cost each American family roughly **\$3,000 per year** in higher energy costs, and would eliminate **3 million jobs**.

The American Energy Innovation Act consists of three titles which dynamically address our growing demand for energy and environmental progress through increased ***Innovation, Conservation, and Production***. Ultimately, the three titles of the American Energy Innovation Act will provide a massive influx of ***Job Creation*** and pay for ***Debt Reduction***. Bill highlights include:

**Innovation:**

Repeals ban on unconventional fuels  
 Tax preferences to encourage innovation  
 Incentives for renewable technologies  
 Reward innovation in technology  
 National grid efficiency  
 Permitting & tort reform  
 Renewable energy facility tax preference  
 Natural gas as a viable commercial fuel

**Conservation:**

Energy efficient buildings deduction  
 Credit for non-business energy property  
 Credit for biomass & synthetic fuels  
 Credit for energy efficient appliances  
 Credit for energy efficient homes  
 Credit for low-rise and commercial Buildings  
 Incentives for carbon sequestration

**Production:**

Outer Continental Shelf leasing plan  
 Development of the Arctic Coastal plain  
 Attainable nuclear energy production  
 Expedited oil, gas, and shale leasing  
 Refining capacity & efficiency  
 Develop alternative sources of fuel  
 Energy impact statement requirement  
 Creates Deficit Reduction Trust Fund

Policies that facilitate the production of traditional resources, as well as support the rapid development of market-based alternative energy sources and technologies, provide the best hope to meet American’s energy needs—today and into the future.

We invite you to support the American Energy Innovation Act. To learn more about this legislation, please contact Bruce Miller with the Republican Study Committee at [bruce.miller@mail.house.gov](mailto:bruce.miller@mail.house.gov) or Emy Lesofski with the Western Caucus at [emy.lesofski@mail.house.gov](mailto:emy.lesofski@mail.house.gov).