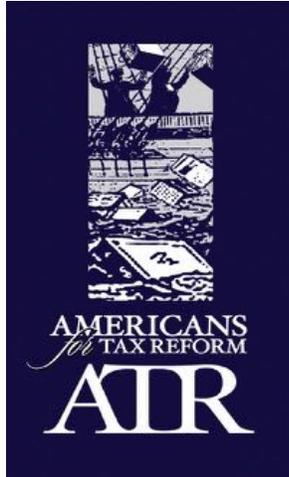




AMERICAN COMMITMENT



An Open Letter to State Legislators: Keep Energy Affordable and Protect the Reliability of the Energy Grid by Passing the RASP Act

December 4, 2014

Dear State Legislator,

Earlier this year, the Environmental Protection Agency proposed unprecedented regulation on our nation's energy producers and threatened Americans' access to affordable and reliable energy solutions. On behalf of the millions of people we represent, we encourage you to support meaningful efforts to push back on the new proposed rules by passing the Reliable, Affordable and Safe Power (RASP) Act. This resolution will send a message to Washington that the States will not stand idle as their energy futures are threatened.

The EPA's new proposed regulations, otherwise known as the Carbon Pollution Standards for Existing Power Plants, amount to a federal takeover of the electricity system, which would have disastrous effects for both businesses and consumers. Estimates of the impacts of these regulations suggest it could cost hundreds of thousands of jobs across the country. Consumers will also see higher energy prices, straining family budgets during a time of stagnant wages. Even worse, higher energy prices disproportionately affect those who least can afford it. Beyond the increased costs of energy, moving away from traditional energy sources has the potential to threaten energy reliability.

In order to make these regulations work the Obama administration has flaunted the clear reading of the Clean Air Act raising serious legal questions from state Attorneys General from across the country. There are already legal challenges working their way through the courts and more are expected once the rule is finalized. This will take years to be finally resolved.

To address these challenges, the RASP Act takes a number of common sense steps to protect states and their citizens from harm brought on by the regulations. First, it prohibits a State from submitting or implementing a State Implementation Plan until the legal questions surrounding the new rules are resolved. This will prevent states from wasting precious resources until EPA's legal authority is clear. Second, it would empower state legislatures, who are accountable to the people, to approve or deny the state implementation plan before it is submitted to the EPA. Lastly, it



includes several provisions that instruct the state agencies developing the plans to ensure that it will protect the affordability and reliability of the state electricity system for its citizens.

We urge you to support the RASP Act in order to protect affordable and reliable energy solutions for American families and businesses.

Sincerely,

Brent Gardner, Director of Federal Affairs
Americans for Prosperity

Phil Kerpen, President
American Commitment

Patrick Hedger, Director of Policy
American Encore

Thomas Pyle, President
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Coley Jackson, President
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Paul Gessing, President
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Judson Phillips, Founder
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