

We The People...

US Senator Jeanne Shaheen
520 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Ph: (202) 224-2841

Dear Senator Shaheen:

We would never be so parochial as to suggest that New Hampshire legislators are the exclusive providers of common sense in the U.S. Congress. Traditional Yankee common sense is, however, a long cherished value of the Granite State; and traditionally members of our Washington delegation take the lead in getting colleagues from both parties to apply that value to critical issues.

As New Hampshire's newest Senator, we urge you to initiate that role by opposing the Waxman-Markey climate change cap and trade bill. The authors of that legislation appear to have taken a vacation from common sense. It is the fiscal equivalent of dousing a house fire with gasoline. With the economy sinking and unemployment rising, Waxman-Markey would drive up energy costs, eliminate jobs and reduce household purchasing power in New Hampshire.

Where is the common sense in that? This bill would add to the nation's economic misery at the same time the stimulus package is trying to relieve it, albeit the most naïve strategy. We believe in individual freedoms, and while there are ways to maintain this sovereignty and still reduce our energy output – suffocating an entire economy to do so isn't only naïve but dangerous to American prosperity. Setting inflexible caps on carbon emissions, that benefit green market speculators more than our economy, isn't the right approach. It will only succeed in making it punitively expensive for New Hampshire people to fill up their gas tanks to drive to work or fill up their oil tanks to heat their homes.

While the cap and trade system ignores traditional common sense, it unfortunately also embraces traditional pork barrel politics. There are already disturbing reports of politicians approaching certain industries "in favor" with decision makers with offers to arrange billions of dollars worth of free carbon emission credits. Once issued by the government, credits would be bought and sold in a complicated trading system created and run by Wall Street like speculators. It is a virtual shell game for American businesses and no way to lift us up from a bad economy.

The lack of transparency in such a system is a virtual invitation for manipulation and abuse. Even if this trading system were not ethically challenged, the larger problem of cap and trade would remain. It simply won't work in America, just as it has not worked in Europe. Cap and trade will provide us no discernible progress against climate change; a business government has no business being in. It will place an unreasonable financial burden on average American families who rely on economic stability which relies on businesses ability to succeed; Cap and trade offers neither.

It is our sincere hope that you will reach out to the common sense instincts of the New Hampshire House members and to all your Senate colleagues and convince them to oppose Waxman-Markey.

Sincerely,

(On the following page see the organizations who have signed this group letter)

Please Print Name

Initial
Here

Full Name of Organization

Jack Kuntall
Member Name

GRANITE STATE PEREONS
Organization

George P. Nozick
Member Name

N.H. Advantage Coalition
Organization

Joe Nale
Member Name

NH 912 project
Organization

Pam Smith
Member Name

NH 912 Project
Organization

Kevin Smith
Member Name

CPR-Action
Organization

DOUG Lambert
Member Name

GraniteGrok.com
Organization

ED N.A.L.E
Member Name

Coalition NH taxpayers
Organization

Matthew T. Murphy
Member Name

N.H. Advantage Coalition
Organization

Steve Polidura
Member Name

Severant Citizens in Action
Organization

Elaine Innescole
Member Name

Citizens Leadership of New Hampshire
Organization Citizens leadership of New Hampshire

Jane A. Fisher
Member Name

Coalition of NH Taxpayers
Organization