September 14, 2008

The Honorable Nancy Barto
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Representative Barto:

Even if we disagree about climate change, we should all be able to agree that climate policy should not be used as a way to hide tax hikes from voters. I am therefore asking you to sign the No Climate Tax Pledge, which puts you on the record in opposition to any legislation relating to climate change that includes a net increase in state or local government revenue.

The costs of higher energy taxes or emissions permits will be passed along to consumers in the form of higher prices for gasoline, electricity, heating oil, food, and any product that is transported to market. If you decide to support legislation that creates a new revenue source, that legislation should take care to use the new revenue to cut taxes dollar-for-dollar and keep the overall tax burden where it is.

It's possible to dramatically alter incentives in favor of lower emissions through a revenue-neutral package of energy taxes paired with pro-growth tax cuts. If you decline to sign this pledge, I'll be forced to consider whether your real goal is to raise taxes, not to mitigate climate change.

Here is the pledge:
I, Nancy Barto, pledge to the taxpayers of the state of Arizona that I will oppose any legislation relating to climate change that includes a net increase in state or local government revenue.

Signed By: [illegible] Date: Oct. 24, 08 Printed Name: