
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, July 29, 2009

Contact: Scott Hagerstrom (517) 214-0787 or Phil Kerpen (202) 349-5880

Americans for Prosperity Applauds State Senator Wayne Kuipers

-Signs No Climate Tax Pledge-

LANSING-The Michigan chapter of the grassroots free-market group Americans for Prosperity (AFP-MI) today applauded State Senator, and likely 2nd district U.S. congressional candidate, Wayne Kuipers (30th District) for signing the group's "No Climate Tax Pledge." By doing so, Kuipers joins more than 220 legislators on the federal, state and local levels pledging to "oppose legislation relating to climate change that includes a net increase in federal revenue."

"The one thing elected officials should be able to agree on is that global warming shouldn't be used as an excuse to hike taxes on citizens and businesses," said AFP-MI State Director Scott Hagerstrom. "We encourage all of Michigan's elected officials and candidates for office to sign the pledge."

Michigan signers include: State Representatives Tom McMillin, Hugh Crawford, Marty Knollenberg, Bill Rogers, Justin Amash, David Agema, James Gould and Arlan Meekof.

Cap-and-trade took its first step toward enactment recently when the U.S. House narrowly passed the Waxman-Markey energy bill. The bill escaped the lower chamber by a scant seven votes, despite significant bipartisan opposition. President Obama has made no secret of his support for a cap-and-trade scheme, which would be the largest tax increase in American history. The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office has scored the plan as an \$846 billion increase in federal revenue, a burden that will be borne by taxpayers and consumers for years to come.

"Using the guise of climate change to transfer dollars from hard-working citizens to big government is unacceptable," said Hagerstrom. "Regardless of their stance on global warming, this should be common ground for all of our elected officials at all levels of government."

The pledge is available online at www.NoClimateTax.com. AFP does not endorse candidates. All elected officials and candidates are encouraged to sign the pledge and go on the record in opposition to using the climate change issue to increase taxes and grow the size of government.

Americans for Prosperity (AFP) is the nation's premier grassroots organization committed to advancing every individual's right to economic freedom and opportunity. AFP believes reducing the size and scope of government is the best safeguard to ensuring individual productivity and prosperity for all Americans. AFP educates and engages citizens in support of restraining state and federal government growth and returning government to its constitutional limits. For more information, visit www.americansforprosperity.org