



Jay Timmons
Executive Vice President

September 23, 2009

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the nation's largest industrial trade association representing small and large manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to support the Murkowski Amendment to H.R. 2996, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

At a time when our economy is attempting to recover from the most severe recession since the 1930s, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations, with no guidance from Congress, will establish disincentives for the long-term investments that would be necessary to grow jobs and expedite economic recovery. The Murkowski Amendment seeks to ensure a healthy and productive discussion in Congress on harmonizing our nation's energy, environmental and economic needs before the EPA starts regulating carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from stationary sources, including manufacturing facilities.

Manufacturers support a comprehensive, federal climate policy within a framework that will cause no economic harm while granting sufficient time to deploy low-carbon technologies, such as carbon capture and sequestration, renewable energy and a renewed and large-scale deployment of nuclear power plants.

Prior to the onset of the financial crisis in 2008, energy inflation and price volatility were major contributors to a loss of approximately 3.7 million high-wage manufacturing jobs. As you may know, manufacturers use one-third of our nation's energy. Because of the impact a federal climate policy will have on the nation's energy future, this is an issue that must be debated by Congress without preemption from a federal agency.

Supporting the Murkowski Amendment does not convey opposition to climate change policy; it merely allows Congress to do its job. We concur with the sentiment in a *Washington Post* September 21 editorial, "Regulating Carbon." It noted that the EPA "is preparing to regulate carbon under the Clean Air Act," which "is breathtakingly unsuited to the great task of battling global warming....Yet if Congress does not act, it's likely that the EPA will. It won't be pretty."

The NAM's Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on the Murkowski Amendment, including potential procedural motions, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 111th Congress. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jay Timmons". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J".

Jay Timmons

Manufacturing Makes America Strong