



PRESS RELEASE

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IECA Opposes S. 1863 "New Alternative Transportation to Give Americans Solutions Act"

As manufacturers whose competitiveness is dependent upon the price of natural gas and natural gas fired power generation, we strongly oppose S. 1863, the New Alternative Transportation to Give Americans Solutions Act of 2011. Demand for natural gas should be determined by markets, not Congress or consumer tax subsidies.

The bill picks winners and losers by creating a consumer tax subsidy that will drive increased demand for natural gas in the transportation sector. Consumer tax subsidies will increase the price of natural gas and natural gas fired electricity to every homeowner, farmer and manufacturer. This is not the time to increase taxes on taxpayers who are struggling in an uncertain job market and economy.

We are not opposed to using natural gas in the transportation sector, but we are opposed to consumer tax subsidies that distort the marketplace at the expense of consumers. Manufacturing is critical to increasing U.S. jobs and this bill jeopardizes American industry's competitiveness.

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading Manufacturing companies with \$700 billion in annual sales and with more than 650,000 employees nationwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through research, advocacy, and collaboration for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: plastics, cement, paper, food processing, brick, chemicals, fertilizer, insulation, steel, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, aluminum and brewing.