

Supporting climate change legislation that protects low-income families from increased costs

Every

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"In passing the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (H.R.2454), the House established the principle that effective climate change legislation should not make low-income households worse off. Low-income families are disproportionately affected by increases in energy prices inherent in effective cap-and-trade legislation, as they spend a larger portion of their budgets on energy-intensive necessities like food, home energy and transportation. Recognizing this, the House bill sets aside 15% of the total value of greenhouse gas allowances created by the bill to fund targeted low-income consumer refunds that, when combined with relief funded through utility companies, fully offset, on average, the increased energy prices that consumers in the bottom quintile of the income distribution will face."

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