

## Cap and Trade will lead to capital flight

**Rep. Ron Paul, M.D. | Guest Writer**  
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE (R-TEXAS)

In my last column, I joked that with public spending out of control and the piling on of the international bailout bill, economic collapse seems to be the goal of Congress. It is getting harder to joke about such a thing however, as the non-partisan General Accounting Office (GAO) has estimated that the administration's health care plan would actually cost over a trillion dollars. This reality check may have given us a temporary reprieve on this particular disastrous policy, however an equally disastrous energy policy reared its ugly head on Capitol Hill last week.

The Cap and Trade Bill HR 2454 was voted on last Friday. Proponents claim this bill will help the environment, but what it really does is put another nail in the economy's coffin. The idea is to establish a national level of carbon dioxide emissions, and sell pollution permits to industry. HR 2454 also gives federal bureaucrats new power to regulate a wide variety of household appliances, such as light bulbs and refrigerators, and further distorts the market by providing more of your tax money to auto companies.

The administration has pointed to Spain as a shining example of this type of progressive energy policy. Spain has been massively diverting capital from the private sector into politically favored environmental projects for the better part of a decade, and many in Washington apparently like what they see. However, under no circumstances should anyone serious about economic recovery emulate an economy that is now approaching 20 percent unemployment, where every green job created, eliminated 2.2 real jobs and cost around \$800,000 each!

The real inconvenient truth is that the cost of government regulations, taxes, fees, red tape and bureaucracy is a considerable expense that has to be considered when companies



decide where to do business and how many people they can afford to hire. Increasing governmental burden directly causes capital flight and job losses, as Spain has learned. In this global economy its easy enough for businesses to relocate to countries that are more politically friendly to economic growth. If our government continues to kick the economy while its down, it will be a long time before it gets back up. In fact, jobs are much more likely to go overseas, compounding our problems.

And for what? Contrary to claims repeated over and over, there is no consensus in the scientific community that global warming is getting worse or that it is manmade. In fact over 30,000 scientists signed a petition recently directly disputing the claims on which this policy is based. Legitimate environmental claims should instead be directed towards the public sector. The government, especially the military, is the most serious polluter in the country, and is exempt from most EPA regulations. Meanwhile Washington bureaucrats have classified the very air we exhale as a pollutant and have gone unchallenged in this incredible assertion. The logical consequence is that there will come a time when we will have to buy a government permit just to emit carbon dioxide into the atmosphere from our own lungs!

The events on Capitol Hill last week just demonstrate Washington's audacity in manufacturing problems just so they can expand government power to solve them.

## Who knows livestock best... veterinarians or vegetarians?

### Cut Through the Chase

**Dan Cassidy | Guest Writer**  
MISSOURI FARM BUREAU

Congress and the Administration stirred up a hornets' nest with proposals on health care and global climate change. Regardless of your position on the proposals, however, the goals are pretty clear.

Such transparency is missing when it comes to the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and their ongoing efforts to convince us to 1) become vegetarians and 2) contribute to HSUS. HSUS is on a mission to eliminate livestock production in the U.S. under the guise of enhancing the lives of farm animals.

Like health care and global climate change, the HSUS animal welfare initiatives are incredibly expensive; in reality their demands for new animal housing practices will put some agricultural producers out of business as the increased costs cannot be passed along to consumers.

At least Congress and the Administration proposed ways to pay for changes in health care and climate change, but not surprisingly, HSUS has yet to provide suggestions on how to pay for their proposals. They have not suggested a tax on pork chops or eggs nor have they offered funds from their own coffers. Apparently, they would rather use their war chest to intimidate those opposed to their plans.

For those not following this battle, HSUS is going from state to state threatening ballot initiatives or legislation requiring new housing practices for chickens and hogs in well coordinated media campaigns. Ultimately, the fight comes down to who determines which management practices are acceptable – should it be veterinarians and animal scientists, or vegetarians dedicated to eliminating livestock production?

HSUS was behind a successful ballot initiative in California that will have profound negative effects on the state's poultry and hog operations. Emboldened by the victory, they are now behind legislation to prevent the sale of eggs in California that come from chickens raised in states with less restrictive poultry housing requirements.

In reality, HSUS does not believe that livestock and poultry should be confined to cages. It will be interesting how this concept goes over in cities where the latest fad is raising chickens in a backyard coop.

Farmers and ranchers have every reason to properly take care of their animals and should not be forced to kowtow to extremists whose goal is the end of a U.S. agricultural production system that is the envy of the rest of the world.

## Letter to the Editor

### Are we really that stupid?

Are we really that stupid? YEP! Read this slowly. Let it sink in. Quietly we go like Sheep to slaughter.

Does anybody out there have any memory of the reason given for the establishment of the DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY ..... during the Carter Administration?

- \* Anybody?
- \* Anything?
- \* No?
- \* Didn't think so !

Bottom line . . we've spent several hundred billion dollars in support of an agency ... the reason for which not one person who reads this can remember.

Ready?

It was very simple ... and at the time everybody thought it very appropriate...

The Department of Energy was instituted on 8-04-1977 TO LESSEN OUR DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN OIL.

Hey, pretty efficient, huh?????

AND NOW IT ' S 2009, 32 YEARS LATER ... AND THE BUDGET FOR THIS NECESSARY DEPARTMENT IS AT \$24.2 BILLION A YEAR; THEY HAVE 16,000 FEDERAL EMPLOYEES AND APPROXIMATELY 100,000 CONTRACT EMPLOYEES AND LOOK AT THE JOB THEY HAVE DONE!

THIS IS WHERE YOU SLAP YOUR FOREHEAD AND SAY ' WHAT WAS I THINKING? '

Ah yes, good ole bureaucracy. And NOW we are going to turn the Banking System & the Auto Industry over to them? And health-care !

B.L.

Cameron, Mo.

## IDENTITY THEFT HITS 5-YEAR HIGH

Leader in I.D. Theft Protection Strikes Back with Free Protection Offer for All

TEMPE, ARIZONA – Identity theft has topped the Federal Trade Commission's list of consumer complaints for the past eight years.

Now, a stunning new survey shows a record 9.9 million Americans were victims of identity theft last year – a shocking 22% increase over the prior year – according to Javelin Strategy & Research.

This study sends a clear message: in the wake of the global economic crisis, identity theft is a big business. It's up to consumers to take proactive steps to protect themselves.

That's why for a limited time, LifeLock, the industry leader in identity theft protection, is offering 30 days of guaranteed identity theft protection service at no cost.

"All you have to do is call 1-888-507-3584 for an individual membership, or 1-888-278-3718 if you are enrolling more than one member," said Todd Davis, the CEO of LifeLock known for giving out his real Social Security number in advertising to show his confidence in the service. "It's that simple."

Immediately upon enrollment, all LifeLock members are protected by LifeLock's \$1 Million Total Service Guarantee.

### HOW TO GET FREE IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION

Call now to protect your family **FREE for 30 days**. Hurry – this exclusive offer is limited only to those that call and use the promotion code below.

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**MULTIPLE**

TEL: **1-888-278-3718**

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**David R. Stevenson, R.Ph.**  
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