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Thank you for reading The Conaway Chronicle, a weekly review of my activities in Congress. This newsletter is to let you know what's going on in Washington and what important issues are being debated in Congress.

Energy Bill must be Reformed

Last week, Congressman Jeb Hensarling (TX-5) and I introduced a bill (**H.R. 5656**) to repeal a section of the Energy bill that raises concerns over economic and national security. Specifically, section 526 states in its entirety:

"*No Federal agency shall enter into a contract for procurement of an alternative or synthetic fuel, including a fuel produced from nonconventional petroleum sources, for any mobility-related use, other than for research or testing, unless the contract specifies that the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions associated with the production and combustion of the fuel supplied under the contract must, on an ongoing basis, be less than or equal to such emissions from the equivalent conventional fuel produced from conventional petroleum sources.*"

Section 526 was included in the Energy bill mainly to repress the Defense Department from buying coal-based jet fuels, which environmentalists insist produce more greenhouse gases than traditional petroleum. However, this theory is not proven and

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does not account for our current ongoing improvements in carbon-capture technologies. The Department of Defense does not need to waste time studying fuel emissions and be held-up by this confusing and irrational section. We must work together to find real solutions to our energy crisis and continue down the road to energy independence. This section does nothing to advance that.

Canada is the largest United States oil supplier. By including this section in the energy bill, we will slow the importation of fuel from Canada, one of our country's most reliable allies and economic partners. It is not in our best interest to limit the ability of the Pentagon access to fuels from our allies, while forcing increased importation from unfriendly, unstable countries. This section puts our country at risk and has the potential to have dangerous implications. It is essential that this section be repealed.

General Petraeus Comes to Washington

This week, General David Petraeus and Ambassador Ryan Crocker will testify before Congress with a report on the recent progress made by the coalition forces in Iraq. This will be the first time that they have testified before both Houses of Congress since September 2007.

It is my hope that radical, liberal groups such as MoveOn.org will have more respect and dignity during this testimony, and not lash out at our commanders and troops on the frontlines as they did in September. It is one thing to disagree with the War, but it is quite another to deny our troops the respect that they deserve for putting their lives on the line everyday for this mission. General Petraues and Ambassador Crocker are doing an outstanding job and the results of the surge are not going unnoticed. I look forward to hearing their testimony in the next few days, and will be back next week with a full report on the hearing.

The Conaway Chronicle will be issued every week when Congress is in session. I hope that you will find it informative and will continue to stay informed with my recent legislative activities in Washington. In the meantime, if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions for future issues of the Conaway Chronicle, please visit the website at **www.house.gov/conaway** or don't hesitate to call me at (202) 225-3605. Check out my blog at **www.conawayblog.com**!

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