

**Alaska Wilderness League * Center for Biological Diversity * Clean Water Action
Defenders of Wildlife * Environment America * Environmental Defense Fund
Friends of the Earth U.S. * League of Conservation Voters
Natural Resources Defense Council * Ocean Conservancy
Physicians for Social Responsibility * Sierra Club * Southern Environmental Law Center
Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance * The Wilderness Society**

September 17, 2014

Dear Representative,

On behalf of our organizations millions of members, supporters, and activists, we urge you to oppose the repackaged series of 13 bills assaulting the environment and public health that the House will be voting on this week. Instead of dedicating the limited legislative time available this month to address any number of critical issues facing the nation, House Republican Leadership has decided to hold repeat votes. This empty gesture will accomplish nothing other than crystalize the Republican Leadership's fossil fueled vision for America: dirty water, dirty air, devastated landscapes, threatened wildlife, unfettered climate disruption, and disregard for public input. Here are just a few of the worst bills in this package:

- H.R. 3826 would block EPA from issuing standards that would cut health-threatening carbon pollution from new coal power plants and repeal EPA's ability to set first-ever carbon pollution limits on existing power plants.
- H.R. 4899 would prioritize oil and gas development over all other uses of public lands and our nation's waterways, and is a clear giveaway to the fossil fuel industry at the expense of millions of Americans, who rely on our public lands and oceans for other uses such as hunting, protection of water supplies, fishing, transportation, recreation, and more.
- H.R. 2641 would place arbitrary and short limits on environmental reviews and severely limit consideration of less harmful alternatives while creating a presumption that a project is acceptable.
- H.R. 3 would thwart the bipartisan process for considering international pipeline applications that millions of Americans have already taken part in and rewrite U.S. laws so that one foreign company can receive benefits from legal exemptions and loopholes.
- H.R. 2728 would prevent the Department of the Interior from enforcing any federal standards on hydraulic fracturing if a state has any rule or even unenforceable guidance governing fracking, no matter how weak or ineffective the state rules are.
- H.R. 1582 would effectively rewrite fundamental environmental standards, grant the Department of Energy sweeping new powers, and eliminate federal responsibility to consider the public's health and safety.

The House has already held over 200 anti-environmental votes this term while actually passing record low levels of legislation into law. Voting once again to strip environmental and health protections will not address any of the myriad critical issues currently facing Congress. We urge you to oppose this unproductive and dangerous package.

Sincerely,

Kristen Miller
Conservation Director
Alaska Wilderness League

William Snape
Senior Counsel
Center for Biological Diversity

Lynn Thorp
National Campaigns Director
Clean Water Action

Mary Beth Beetham
Director of Legislative Affairs
Defenders of Wildlife

Anna Aurilio
Director, Washington DC Office
Environment America

Carol Andress
Director, Climate Legislative Operations
Environmental Defense Fund

Ben Schreiber
Climate and Energy Program Director
Friends of the Earth U.S.

Sara Chieffo
Legislative Director
League of Conservation Voters

Franz Matzner
Associate Director of Government Affairs

Natural Resources Defense Council

Jeff Watters

Acting Director, Government Relations

Ocean Conservancy

Catherine Thomasson

Executive Director

Physicians for Social Responsibility

Melinda Pierce

Director Federal Campaigns

Sierra Club

Nat Mund

Legislative Director

Southern Environmental Law Center

Jen Beasley Ujifusa

Legislative Director

Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance

Chase Huntley

Senior Director of Government Relations for Energy

The Wilderness Society