

Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2007 11:48 AM
To: EMAILUPDATE-MI08@LS1.HOUSE.GOV
Subject: Legislative Email Update - Promoting Alternative Fuels

I write to update you on recent legislative activities in the United States Congress. I appreciate the opportunity to contact you.

[Promoting Alternative Fuel Legislation](#)

Recently I introduced legislation that will advance production of alternative fuel vehicles to help get America off its dependence on foreign oil. My bill would provide loan guarantees of up to \$20 billion to accelerate development and production of American-made alternative fuel vehicles.

Michigan has more automotive research than the other 49 states combined. This legislation is an important opportunity for our automotive scientists, engineers, designers and workers to change the way we power our cars and trucks. These loans would allow Michigan companies, at little or no cost to taxpayers, to borrow private funds for research, development, and production of alternative fuel vehicles.

I drive a flex-fuel car that uses E85 ethanol, and every time I step on the gas, I celebrate the opportunity to drive an American-made car operating on a renewable fuel made by Michigan farmers and refinery workers, delivered by Michigan truck drivers, and sold at Michigan gas stations. Imagine the powerful impact on the future of our country and our hard working families when we make the transition off foreign oil and into vehicles running on ethanol or other alternatives like hybrid electric or clean diesel power.

For more information on this issue, [click here](#) to view media reports from the Associated Press and the Livingston Press and Argus
[Big 3 Testify on Capitol Hill](#)

Last week, the Energy and Commerce Committee on which I serve heard testimony from CEOs of the Big Three automakers. The subcommittee asked automakers and union officials to testify on climate change and energy security.

I firmly believe that if America is to get off its dependence on foreign oil, Congress and U.S. automakers must make major commitments to the research and development of alternative fuels and vehicles that operate on renewable, American-made energy sources.

We must find a balance that protects the environment and American jobs.

I also understand that American auto manufacturers rarely receive credit for the financial commitment and the progress they've already made on moving toward advanced technology in alternative fuel vehicles. These automakers have already made great strides by developing and working with lithium batteries, fuel cells, hydrogen fuel, and ethanol. The challenge for our next generation will be the transition to alternative energy to power our cars, heat and cool our homes, and

light our daily lives. I hope Congress can be a partner in that process and rather than the source of more bureaucratic hurdles.

[Alternatives for Iraq](#)

Last month I introduced my own resolution on Iraq - one offering alternatives to make progress in Iraq.

To read my resolution, please [click here](#):

To view my floor speech, please [click here](#):

I appreciate your continued interest in the legislative activities of the U.S. Congress. As always, if you should have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

Mike Rogers
Member of Congress

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