

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 12, 2006

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

In your State of the Union address, you stressed the importance of reducing our nation's dependence on foreign oil and identified the critical role that renewable fuels such as ethanol can play in the effort to reduce oil consumption. We support your efforts to increase the production and use of ethanol and encourage you to continue to support efforts in the Congress to make that a reality.

There are close to six million flexible fuel vehicles on the road today that are capable of running on E85. By the end of 2008, our domestic auto manufacturing industry has committed to build more than one million new flexible fuel vehicles (FFVs) annually, and that number will likely continue to increase. Around the country, private sector investors and communities are committing to new production plants that will significantly increase the amount of ethanol available to fuel these vehicles.

There is a critical missing piece in our nation's efforts to reduce our reliance on oil. A major barrier to the use of FFVs to reduce oil consumption is the lack of fueling stations that provide E85. Less than one percent of the fueling stations around the country offer E85. Without significant steps to spur development of the necessary E85 infrastructure, all of the efforts to increase the production of ethanol and availability of FFVs will be for naught, and we will miss a major opportunity not only to reduce our consumption of oil but also to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. Our domestic auto industry has already shown their commitment to increasing the number of FFVs available for purchase. Now we just need to make the fuel available by asking the oil industry to make a similar commitment to provide the necessary E85 infrastructure.

You will soon meet with the CEOs of the domestic auto companies to discuss critical issues facing the industry, including health care, trade, currency manipulation, and energy. Given the auto companies commitment to FFVs, and given that the availability of E85 is essential to our reducing oil consumption, we strongly urge you to ask the major oil companies to commit to installing E85 pumps at a significant percentage of their owned and franchised stations and to seek from them a commitment to a specific target by 2010.

Sincerely,



Carl Levin
Senator



Debbie Stabenow
Senator



John D. Dingell
Member of Congress



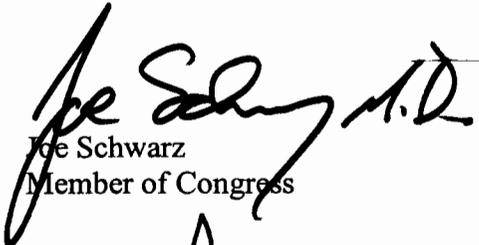
Fred Upton
Member of Congress



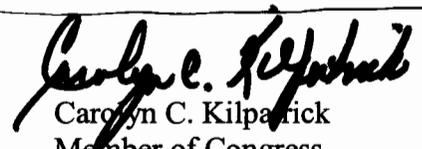
Sander Levin
Member of Congress



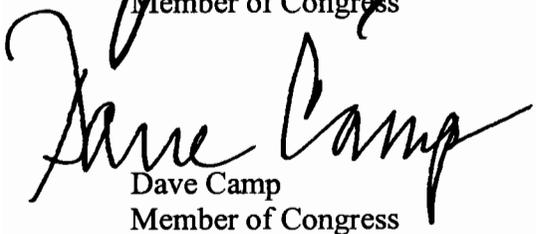
Dale Kildee
Member of Congress



Joe Schwarz
Member of Congress



Carolyn C. Kilpatrick
Member of Congress



Dave Camp
Member of Congress



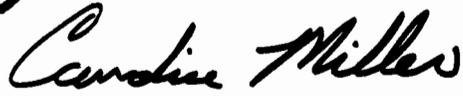
Bart Stupak
Member of Congress



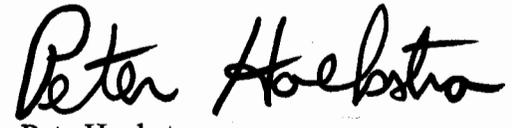
Joe Knollenberg
Member of Congress



Joe Knollenberg
Member of Congress



Candice Miller
Member of Congress



Pete Hoekstra
Member of Congress



Mike Rogers
Member of Congress



Thaddeus McCotter
Member of Congress