



The United States Conference of Mayors

1620 Eye Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20006
Phone (202) 293-7330 • Fax (202) 293-2352
E-mail: info@usmayors.org URL: usmayors.org

For Immediate Release
December 5, 2007

Contact: Lina Garcia / Mayors Climate Protection Center
202.341.6113 / lgarcia@usmayors.org

Statement from The U.S. Conference of Mayors President Trenton Mayor Douglas H. Palmer on Need for Prompt Congressional Action on Energy Legislation

Washington, DC – “On behalf of the nation’s mayors, we urge Congress to pass this long-overdue legislation that is certain to help all of us accelerate our efforts to reduce energy use, increase energy efficiency and curb greenhouse gas emissions. We now live in a world where our energy dependency increasingly threatens our economic and national security, and it is time to confront this new reality before it is too late.

“We want to commend House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and others for their leadership to move the country forward and chart a new direction for our energy future, as they have provided in the pending energy legislation.

“Among many positive provisions, the legislation will forge a new partnership between the federal government and cities, counties and states on energy efficiency and the development of new technologies, specifically through the creation of an Energy Efficiency Block Grant. As the House of Representatives prepares to act on this legislation, we especially want to recognize Representative Albert R. Wynn of Maryland for his commitment to building this new partnership.

“We began the year urging Congress to act on this important initiative for America’s cities and their energy efforts, and we thank the many Congressional leaders who responded to our call. When enacted, the block grant program will provide \$2 billion annually to support community-based, grass-roots actions to reduce our overdependence on foreign energy sources and further ongoing local climate protection efforts.”

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