



Local governments working together for a better metropolitan region

July 12, 2011

District of Columbia

*Bladensburg**

Bowie

College Park

Frederick

Frederick County

Gaithersburg

Greenbelt

Montgomery County

Prince George's County

Rockville

Takoma Park

Alexandria

Arlington County

Fairfax

Fairfax County

Falls Church

Loudoun County

Manassas

Manassas Park

Prince William County

**Adjunct member*

Honorable Roscoe Bartlett
United States House of Representatives
2412 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Oppose Pompeo Amendment to HR 2354

Dear Representative Bartlett:

On behalf of the Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), I am writing to urge you **to oppose the Pompeo Amendment to HR 2354, which prohibits funds from this appropriations act to be used to carry out the Vehicle Technologies Program of the Department of Energy (DOE).** This amendment would eliminate funding for the program that manages the Clean Cities Initiative, which aids local and regional efforts to purchase clean vehicles and develop alternative fuel infrastructure.

Clean Cities programs promote and assist in measurable reduction in petroleum-based fuels and increase use of alternative fuels, vehicles, and infrastructure; **this assists in improving air quality, energy security, and economic opportunities.** COG has firsthand knowledge of the benefits of the Clean Cities programs because it hosted the region's Clean Cities Coalition from 1993 to 2010.

Not funding the Vehicle Technologies Program would **eliminate \$200 million in competitive grants to up to 30 communities for the deployment of electric vehicle infrastructure** through the Clean Cities Community Readiness and Planning for Plug-in Electric Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure funding opportunity.

We urge you to oppose this Pompeo Amendment to HR 2354. The prohibition of funding for the Vehicle Technologies Program of the Department of Energy through this act would be a step backward in assisting local and regional efforts to increase adoption of domestic clean fuel and vehicle technologies.

Thank you for giving this your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jay Fisetle, Chair
Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee

cc: National Capital Region Congressional Delegation:

Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton

Rep. Roscoe Bartlett

Rep. Steny H. Hoyer

Rep. Chris Van Hollen

Rep. Donna F. Edwards

Rep. Gerard E. Connolly

Rep. Jim Moran

Rep. Robert J. Wittman

Rep. Frank R. Wolf