

Letters to the Editor

A Sheer Genius Scam - Going Green All Right; Freedom Is Going, Gone!

In light of the recent developments concerning the debate in Congress and in our country over the Cap and Trade bill, I have been compelled to respond to the overwhelming consensus of manmade global warming, especially since the congressman for whom I voted, Mr. Leonard Lance, voted yes for the cap and trade bill.

The bill, which has now passed the House and is headed to the Senate, is basically a massive energy tax to combat global warming. Manmade global warming is a science all right, a political science. Any and all science to the contrary of the manmade global warming science is conveniently squashed by the mainstream media, which has now become an appendage of our government.

It is actually an ingenious concept and method used to control the citizens of the earth by convincing them that somehow, we are responsible for giving the planet a fever; and if we don't stop our outrageous carbon emission behavior immediately, the earth will get even sicker and die. It is no wonder this is America's 21st century focus. We better shift the focus off the fact that we've just spent our children and grandchildren's lives into trillion-dollar oblivion!

This manmade global warming has as much merit as Chicken Little claiming the sky is falling and is also reminiscent of the emperor's new clothes. (For those of you unfamiliar with the fable, ask mommy or daddy to explain.)

Have a theory, and it's only a theory so don't go all bonkers, environmentalists. Could it be possible that Mr. Al Gore was so incredibly frustrated losing the presidential election in 2000 that he still needed to make a difference in this world? — Ergo the movie *An Inconvenient Truth*, which by the way morphed into a very convenient truth for him, yielding over \$100 million in revenues. Ah yes, man in his vanity truly believes he makes a difference.

The only difference I see happening in America today is the loss of our liberties as the government scoops up more and more of the private sector — i.e., the auto industry, banking industry, insurance industry; the medical industry is next and this carbon footprint nonsense is the nail in coffin. The government is taking over our lives, people! That is not liberty. Look the word up in the dictionary. It is tyranny!

The government will soon, if not already, be telling us what cars we can drive and what color they can be (did you know the color of your car affects global warming?) — what temperature your house-

Oligarchy Will Not Allow Vote on Adoptees

New Jersey citizenry, beware. Take it from the adoption community; nothing gets done in Trenton unless the governor, president of the Senate, and speaker of the Assembly agree on it. Now, if you want anything done you will also have to convince a lieutenant governor. Despite the fact that nearly 80 percent of our legislature supports adoption reform, the current oligarchy will not allow a vote on A752. The Adoptees Birthright bill (see adopteeswithoutliberty.com).

Can anyone remember the last time a bill was killed on the floor of the N.J. Legislature?

It just doesn't happen because political leadership pulls all the strings and makes all the backroom deals. A full vote by our legislature is simply a dog and pony show, put on after the powerful elite has decided so. This unfair concentration of power, now to include a lieutenant governor, should infuriate New Jersey residents and honest lawmakers, alike.

Cpt. Peter Franklin  
47th CSH Unit, Iraq

hold thermostat will be set at (I hear the President likes to keep the oval office quite warm — now, now Mr. President that's not fair), how far we can drive our cars each week, which doctors we can use and for which treatments we are eligible, how many children you can have, (each additional human adds to the global warming dilemma), cold water washes only in those household washing machines — and you better begin erecting a clothes line, dryers use way too much energy; the sun works just fine.

The control is endless, all under the erroneous claim of manmade global warming. It's a political dream come true. Control of the masses, tax increases across the board, convincing us it is necessary for our survival, compounded with personal responsibility and guilt — all under the guise of manmade global warming. It's sheer genius!

It's time we take back our country, our lives and our planet. Get a grip, people, on the absurdity of this manmade global warming premise. Again, I say do your homework. Seek the truth, and you will find it's all about the money! I've done my homework, and I'm not buying into this nonsense. If you are truly a concerned inhabitant of this planet, may I suggest you consider the possibility that the majority of the alarmist reporting on the topic of global warming is propaganda and instead of allowing yourself to be brainwashed by Hollywood and the mainstream media, read a scientific book on the topic.

If I may be so bold to suggest a recent book published titled "Climate Confusion" written by Roy W. Spencer. Mr. Spencer is a voice of reason with a Ph.D. in meteorology, a former senior scientist at NASA, and other numerous credentials qualifying him as an expert on the subject or non-subject of supposed global warming.

Look around at the marketing behind "green products." It is astounding. Everything and everything is about going green. Interestingly, these green rules and limiting one's carbon footprint seems to evade the elite — particularly the political elite. They're still flying all over the globe (not on broomsticks, I'm assuming, with the exception of Senator [Barbara] Boxer). Sorry, "ma'am," something tells me quite possibly there is a broomstick parked in your garage.

I would suspect most political elite live in larger-than-average houses smiling all the way to the control bank while we light candles, freeze our you know what and ride bicycles everywhere. Face it, average Americans, you've been scammed. And while we're all preoccupied with this global warming hoax, OPEC is basically in complete control of the world's oil, which is disgraceful, (there is more oil in this earth than we know what to do with), and no one in a power position, Mr. President, is attempting to put a stop to OPEC.

To say nothing about North Korea and Iran plotting and preparing for a nuclear attack on the United States and Israel — but not to worry, we're going Green while they're going nuclear. We're going to windmills and solar panels, all under the political umbrella scandal known as global warming. What a joke.

We're going green all right — going, gone!

One last very important thought to the parents of our young children — Please don't allow them to be frightened by all this global warming hysteria being put forth in our public schools. In my day, it was the ice age scare, and I'm only 53 years old. My, how quickly we went from an ice age to an all out polar ice cap meltdown. The only thing that's in meltdown mode in America today is our freedom!

Maria Carluccio  
Westfield



Councilman Commentary  
On The Protestors In Westfield Last Week at Lance's Office

Tom Bigosinski, Westfield

Cap and Trade Not Diabolical Fascist Scheme to Suppress Opposition

The front page of the July 2, 2009 *Westfield Leader* provided coverage of Congressman Leonard Lance's recent "yes" vote on the "Cap and Trade" bill (less commonly known as the American Clean Energy and Security Act). As described in *The Leader's* article, the Act seeks to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by, among other things, requiring electric utilities to meet 20 percent of their electricity demand through renewable energy sources, although opponents are concerned it represents a national energy tax.

The paper also carried a photograph of a protester outside of Congressman Lance's Westfield office toting a sign that prominently exclaimed the vote to reflect "More Govt. FASCISM."

This protester, and those like him who have a similar fascination with hyperbole, need to take a deep breath, or perhaps read some history. The new "F-word" (fascism) is getting a lot of play recently in political circles, which is extremely disheartening. Fascism is defined by Merriam-Webster as "a political philosophy, movement, or regime (as that of the Fascisti) that exalts nation and often race above the individual and

that stands for a centralized autocratic government headed by a dictatorial leader, severe economic and social regimentation, and forcible suppression of opposition."

George Orwell wrote in 1944 that "The word 'Fascism' is almost entirely meaningless," but his words are lost on those who seemingly toss around the phrase to express disagreement with any legislative act.

Congressman Lance's vote on Cap-and-Trade may have been right, or it may have been wrong. Time will tell. And the protester outside his office had every right to communicate his opposition. But it would be encouraging to see that opposition presented without resort to such extreme and misdirected terminology. Congressman Lance and the 218 other Congress people who supported "Cap-and-Trade" — in addition to those who voted against it — deserve the benefit of the doubt that their votes were well-intended and not part of a diabolical scheme to suppress opposition or exalt the nation and/or their race over the individual.

Thomas Bigosinski  
Westfield 4th Ward Councilman

Master Gardeners Thank Community For Support, Invite New Members

The Master Gardeners of Union County would like to thank the community for their support during our Spring Garden Fair and Plant Sale this past May. This is our major fundraiser. The funds raised enable us to offer horticulture programs to nursing homes, schools and other community organizations.

We grow fresh vegetables in our "Sharing Garden" for distribution to shelters, food banks and soup kitchens, provide speakers on gardening and grant awards to horticulture students at Union County College and Union County Vocational Technical School. We also support 4-H gardening activities with children.

We thank the following individuals and nurseries for their support of our fair: Amberg Perennial Farm and Garden Center, Bartell Farm and Garden Supply, Dreyer Farms, Miele's Greenhouses, Williams Nursery; county parks, police and mosquito control departments; 4-H Master Tree Steward Volunteers and Trailside Science and Nature Center.

New Jersey Master Gardeners are trained volunteers who assist Rutgers Agricultural Experiment Station Coopera-

Judges Thank Westfield For Enthusiasm, Spirit

We would like to thank all the people of Westfield who participated so enthusiastically in the 2009 America in Bloom competition. Special thanks to co-chairs Sherry Cronin and David Williams for pulling together such an effective team.

We were impressed with the vibrancy of your downtown and the beauty of your residential neighborhoods. There is no question that you have "planted pride" throughout Westfield — in baskets, containers and flowerbeds.

We look forward to seeing Westfield represented in October at the America in Bloom educational symposium and awards program. We hope Westfield will continue to participate in America in Bloom and recognize it as a valuable community-building tool.

Katy Moss Warner  
Patrick Bones  
America in Bloom judges

Extension to deliver horticulture programs and information to the public. Anyone with an interest in gardening and a commitment to volunteer service can become a Master Gardener. No previous education or training in horticulture is required.

A new Master Gardener class is starting this fall at the Union County RCE office in Westfield. Contact Lynne Orlofsky at (908) 654-9854 for an application or visit our website [mastergardeners-uc.org](http://mastergardeners-uc.org) for more information.

Joanne Krueger  
Scotch Plains

AARP Thanks Gov. For Health Care Items

In a tough economic climate, it can be especially hard to balance the state budget. The fiscal responsibility is to meet the moral obligation of helping people access needed health care through public insurance programs. Keeping people in a program that provides quality, preventive care is a sound investment in New Jersey's future.

The Governor announced on Monday, June 29, that he would not enact the proposed \$9 million cut to NJ FamilyCare. This cut would have caused enrollment for 17,000 low-income parents between 150 to 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). This excellent news is a direct result of hard work performed by a coalition of advocacy organizations, including AARP New Jersey and New Jersey Citizen Action. Not only did the coalition stop the proposed cutback to FamilyCare, but the program has been improved with the elimination of premiums for all children below 200 percent of FPL.

There are many legislators who deserve our thanks. First of all, AARP thanks the Governor. We also thank Senator Joseph Vitale for his strong and outspoken support and Senator Barbara Buono and Assemblyman Lou Greenwald who helped make this possible.

Sy Larson  
State President, AARP Princeton

Where IS the 'Loyal Opposition?'

Has It Disappeared With the Facts?

Rep. Leonard Lance was wrong to vote "Yes" on the recent cap-and-trade legislation for a number of reasons, not the least of which being his vote was based on beliefs not supported by facts that his constituents do not support.

Let's start with the way in which this bill was presented. It was rammed through Congress with little debate. Considering how this Congress has run rough shod over the legislative process, as a member of the "loyal opposition," Rep. Lance should have pressed for more debate. Instead, he joined with the left wing of the Democratic Party to vote "Yes."

Looking at his rationale for voting yes, Lance calls the Waxman-Markey legislation "not perfect." That is the understatement of the year. It seems Lance's reasoning rests on a foundation that is more belief than science. You [the newspaper] quote Lance as saying, "I believe there is climate change that is occurring, and I think most scientists agree with that." This flies in the face of current facts.

According to a recent *Wall Street Journal* article, Sen. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma now counts more than 700 scientists who disagree with the U.N. on climate change — 13 times the number who authored the U.N.'s 2007 climate summary for policymakers.

Mr. Lance uses as one of his justifications that the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) concluded that any costs of the Waxman-Markey legislation would be minimal. But, as the Heritage Foundation points out, the CBO report ignores the economic damage the legislation will do. It is an account analysis of the flow of allowance revenue; it is not an economic analysis of the true opportunity cost of the bill. As footnote 3 on page 4 of the CBO analysis reads, "The resource cost does not indicate the potential decrease in gross domestic product (GDP) that could result from the cap. The reduction in GDP would also include indirect general equilibrium effects such as changes in the labor supply resulting from reductions in real wages and potential reductions in the productivity of capital and labor."

According to the Heritage analysis, "the GDP hit in 2020 was \$161 billion (2009 dollars). For a family of four, that translates into \$1,870." That is much bigger than Lance's "equivalent of a price of

a first-class postage stamp a day." Lance also seems to justify his vote by recognizing that New Jersey "is more aggressive than the federal program contained in the bill." So it seems he wants to dump our trash on the rest of the nation. He says that clean energy technology in N.J. has "created thousands of jobs" and yet, since 2005, unemployment has increased by 200,000. The tax burden that this legislation will put on small businesses will only increase that number.

If New Jersey's actions are so great, why are we ranked 50th in the country for business friendliness?

The great delusion of cap and trade is that it will purportedly reduce our reliance on hydrocarbon fuels. Everyone thinks of this as oil and gas for our big SUVs. What is less talked about, however, is that electricity is absolutely critical for just about everything else, and about 70 percent of all our electricity comes from carbon-based fuels (coal and natural gas). As economist Scott Grannis notes, "If we want to cut hydrocarbon fuel consumption for electricity generation by, say 50 percent, we're going to have to increase renewable fuel use by a factor of more than 10 (i.e. from 3 percent to 35 percent)."

This just isn't going to happen in one or two lifetimes without destroying the economic engine of the U.S.

Finally, Lance offers as reasoning for his vote that he wants to reduce dependence on foreign oil. If this is the case, why not support legislation that allows the U.S. to tap our own vast resources and produce more of its own oil? Why not promote further adoption of nuclear energy, which is widely used in Europe? At the very least, do this as we develop more renewable sources over time in a manner that is not devastating to our way of life. It is all well and good that Rep. Lance still believes in global warming and that he considers himself a "strong environmentalist" — after all, we're all entitled to our beliefs. However, he might also need to consider whether his views still match those of his constituency that elected him. And those of us that elected him may need to consider if we should do so again.

Michael Ellison  
Westfield

Applaud Congress for Supporting Clean Energy Act (Cap and Trade)

Last Friday, Congress took a historic step toward a clean energy economy by passing the American Clean Energy and Security Act (H.R. 2454).

While our current policies on clean energy still need to be refined — and scientific evidence that we need to be doing much, much more — this is a huge first step towards freeing ourselves from dependence on fickle fossil fuels, and Congress should be applauded for taking it.

New Jersey's representatives from both parties played a crucial part in passing this legislation, and as a Westfield resident, I want to especially thank Rep. Leonard Lance (R-7) for voting to pass this landmark legislation, setting an example of bipartisan cooperation to promote clean energy; we will get there with nothing less.

This bill now moves to the U.S. Senate.

Matt Burton  
Westfield

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**Whose Library Is It Anyway?**

**Improvisational Acting Techniques for Teens**

Join an improv actor and learn the tricks of creating believable characters and making up dialogue for improvisational scenes. Please bring your library card to participate.

Grades 9-12 Monday, July 13 7-8:30 pm  
Grades 6-8 Tuesday, July 14 7-8:30 pm

To register, go to [www.wmlnj.org](http://www.wmlnj.org) and click on Online Calendar, or call 908.789.4090 ext 4114. 550 East Broad Street