



703 - C Concord Avenue - Charlottesville, VA 22902

June 12, 2009

1520 Longworth HCB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Perriello:

My organization, the NAACP- Charlottesville, represents minorities in your district. The NAACP has a long history of advocacy on behalf of all American citizens.

You are about to vote on important environmental legislation (the Waxman-Markey bill). We support making the environment cleaner, but the reason we are writing is that we are concerned about our electric bills. Many of our members are on tight budgets and the sizes of their monthly utility bills are important expense items. The cost to heat and cool our homes, run hot water and use other appliances is very important to those on a budget.

Our state gets 56% of its electricity from coal. We urge you to pass legislation that reduces greenhouse gases but at the same time protects consumers from unaffordable increases in the basic necessity of electricity.

We ask you to use your important position to help protect minorities and other consumers in your district from higher electricity bills. Please don't vote to force cost increases on us, especially in this volatile economy. We urge you to make pro-consumer changes in the Waxman-Markey bill to protect minorities and all of your constituents from unaffordable energy cost increases.

Respectfully,

Sheila Dowe
Sheila Dowe
NAACP - Charlottesville

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