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Letters To The Editor

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Climate Legislation Would Hurt Business

Editor, Times-Dispatch:

As the U.S. Senate considers climate-control legislation, any legislation passed should allow our economy to grow while we continue to enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the world. I am concerned that we are consistently hurting American businesses to the benefit of foreign companies.

A good example is S 2191, "America's Climate Security Act." It does not recognize the international nature of climate issues. If developing nations do not participate, American businesses will be punished. American companies will move overseas to nations with lower standards.

S 2191 would impose artificial restrictions on America's use of its most abundant energy resource, coal. The bill would mandate huge reductions in the release of carbon dioxide. Technology to achieve this standard does not exist. The only way to meet the targets would be to reduce substantially our economic growth. At a time when our economy faces serious challenges, the requirements of this legislation should not be placed on American businesses.

America needs to make coal even cleaner and more efficient. We need to work toward improving energy efficiency at all levels by developing new technologies that use available resources and protect economic growth.

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