

NEWS RELEASE

Contact:

Gretchen Dahlkemper, 305-606-6160, gdahlkemper@momscleanairforce.org

Moms Clean Air Force Criticizes Pennsylvania Legislators for Unprecedented Effort to Block Climate Action

Bill Passed Today Will Interfere with Keystone State Scientists, Put Families at Risk

(October 15, 2014) Moms Clean Air Force today slammed Pennsylvania State Senators for passing a bill that will hinder state efforts to reduce climate pollution.

The Senate voted 31-to-17 today to pass HB 2354. The bill, which has already passed the House, will create unnecessary roadblocks against climate action and leave the state vulnerable to federal interference.

"This bill will allow politicians to overrule Pennsylvania's best scientists, and interfere with the Department of Environmental Protection's attempts to use the fastest and most effective measures to reduce carbon pollution," said Gretchen Dahlkemper of Moms Clean Air Force. "This is an unprecedented move to put politics over science, and over the health and safety of Pennsylvania families.

HB 2354 will make it harder for Pennsylvania to comply with the Clean Power Plan, which will put the first-ever national limits on climate pollution from power plants. In Pennsylvania, power plants are responsible for 46 percent of the state's carbon pollution.

HB 2354 will allowed any *one* House of the state General Assembly to veto *any* greenhouse gas emission reduction plan required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). However, EPA is required to implement a *federal* plan in any state that does not provide its own. That means the state is now less able to enact its own plans, and more open to federal mandates.

"Pennsylvania's scientists should be able to decide how to best meet the goals in EPA's Clean Power Plan," said Dahlkemper. "This bill takes decisions out of the hands of the people best qualified to make them, and it makes it harder for Pennsylvanians to protect their families from the dangers of climate change and unhealthy air pollution."

Blog: <http://www.momscleanairforce.org/blog/>.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/momscleanairforce>.

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CleanAirMoms>.

###

Moms Clean Air Force is a community of moms and dads united against air pollution – including the urgent crisis of our changing climate – to protect our children's health. We arm members with reliable information and solutions through online resources, articles, action tools and on-the-ground events. More here: <http://www.momscleanairforce.org/>