

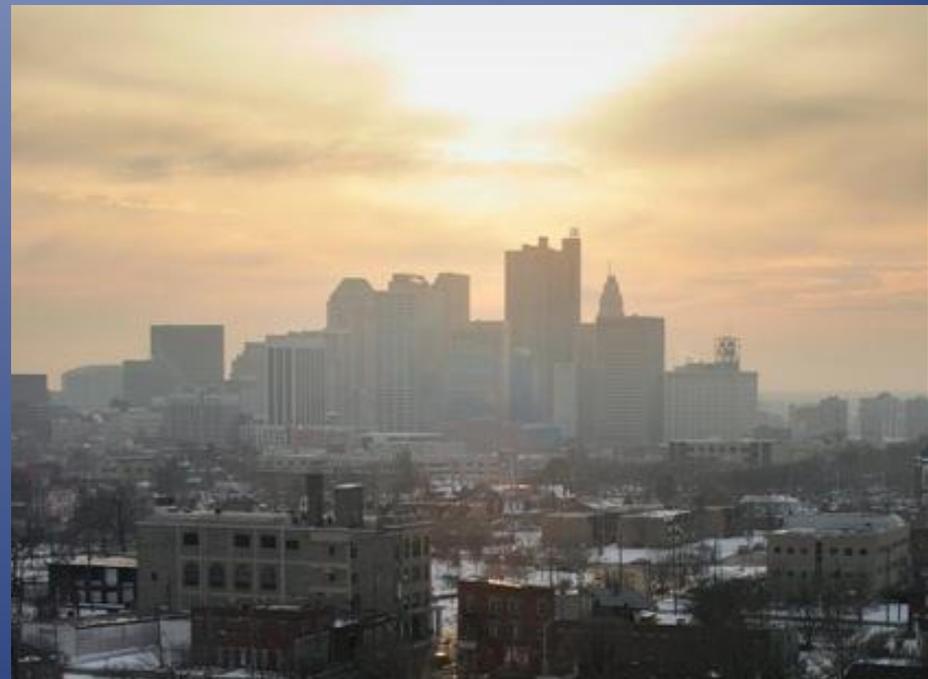
# Do We Have Too Much Clean Air?

*Why else would Congress threaten  
to weaken the clean air standards  
that protect our health?*

*Saturday, March 31, 2012*

# History of the Clean Air Act

- Initially enacted in 1970 to enforce clean air standards, has contributed to an improvement in human health and longer life spans
- Amendments in 1990 provided the legal authority for federal programs regarding air pollution control



# *Mass v. EPA*

- In 2003, EPA claimed it lacked authority under the Clean Air Act to regulate carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases for climate change purposes
- ***Massachusetts v. Environmental Protection Agency*** (2007) is a U.S. Supreme Court case requiring EPA to regulate carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases as pollutants.

# The Clean Air Act: Protecting Our Families and the Air We Breathe

- March 1, 2011 Environmental Protection Agency releases comprehensive report
- Comprehensive, updated, and peer-reviewed information on the Act's costs and benefits from 1990-2020
- Clear conclusion: the Clean Air Act has been an *incredible* investment for America

# The Clean Air Act: Protecting Our Families and the Air We Breathe

- Direct benefits of the Clean Air Act – in the form of cleaner air and healthier, more productive Americans – are estimated to reach nearly \$2 trillion in the year 2020, exceeding the costs by a factor of more than 30 to one.

# The Clean Air Act: Protecting Our Families and the Air We Breathe

- According to the report, in 2010 alone, the reductions in fine particle and ozone pollution from the Clean Air Act prevented more than:
  - 160,000 premature deaths
  - 130,000 heart attacks
  - 13 million lost work days
  - 1.7 million asthma attacks



# The Clean Air Act: Protecting Our Families and the Air We Breathe

- The report puts to rest the old argument that we can't have a healthy economy and a healthy environment
- Without the passage of a comprehensive climate and energy bill in 2010, the EPA must now carry out its responsibility under the Clean Air Act to reduce the emissions that cause climate change

# Mercury and Air Toxics

- December 2011 release of Mercury and Air Toxics Rule
- Safeguard against harmful air pollution from power plant emissions of mercury, arsenic, dioxin, and other toxics
- Ohio ranks second in the nation for mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants

# Mercury and Air Toxics

- Prevent 4,700 heart attacks
- 130,000 asthma attacks among children
- Save 11,000 lives
- Power plant industry spending millions to lobby against full implementation



# Industrial Carbon Pollution Rule

- Release of the carbon pollution rule this week
- First national limits on carbon pollution from new power plants
- Limits industrial carbon pollution from new power plants, which is essential to improving public health and protect Ohio kids.



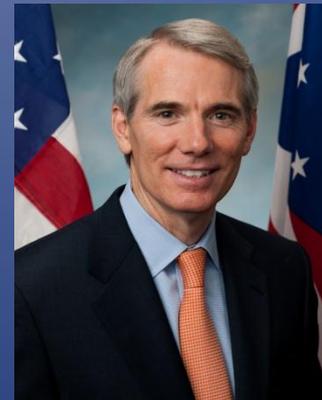
# Industrial Carbon Pollution Rule

- Power plants dump more than two billion tons of dangerous carbon pollution and other pollutants into the air annually
- New standards will also spark innovation in clean technologies and create green jobs here in America

Soliciting 2 million written  
comments to EPA

# Clean Air Act Under Attack

- Currently under attack in Congress by those who are actively challenging the EPA's authority to regulate these emissions
- Long list of proposals pending to undermine the Clean Air Act
- Attaching amendments to existing bills
- Serious threats
- Congressional Review Act



# What Are We Doing?

- Environmental: Clean Air Defense Campaign
  - National Wildlife Federation
  - Audubon Ohio
  - Environmental Health Watch
  - Union of Concerned Scientists
  - Interfaith Power and Light
  - Sierra Club
  - Environment Ohio
  - Blue Green Alliance
  - Moms Clean Air Force
  - YOU!!



# What Are We Doing?

- Press conferences and visibility events
- Coalition building and grassroots mobilization
- Post card collection
- Phone calls
- Editorial board outreach
- Letters to the editor
- Direct advocacy





A recent study by the Clean Air Task Force estimated that in 2002 in Ohio, power plant pollution alone was responsible for:

- 1,249 deaths
- 19,683 asthma attacks
- 1,934 non-fatal heart attacks

In addition, in Ohio, 1,362 people went to the emergency room because of an asthma attack caused by power plant pollution, and 573 people with cardiac symptoms caused by power plant pollution were hospitalized.



**MAKE THE Clean Air Promise**

I promise to protect America's children and families from dangerous air pollution.

I will support clean air policies that will improve air quality and protect our air quality.

**PROMISE ME!!**

**SIGN THE PROMISE NOW ASK ME HOW!**



**Clean Air Promise** The Clean Air Promise is:

"I promise to protect America's children and families from dangerous air pollution. Because toxic pollutants such as mercury, smog, carbon, and lead cause thousands of hospital visits, asthma attacks, and even deaths, I will support clean air policies and other protections that scientists and public health experts have recommended to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to safeguard our air quality."

**SIGN NOW!!**

**PROMISE ME CLEAN AIR**

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**SIGN**

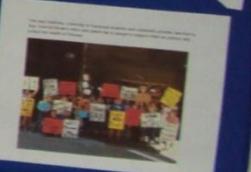
**PROMISE ME CLEAN AIR**



**KEEP THE CLEAN AIR PROMISE TO OUR KIDS WE CAN'T AFFORD NOT TO.**

**TAKE ACTION**

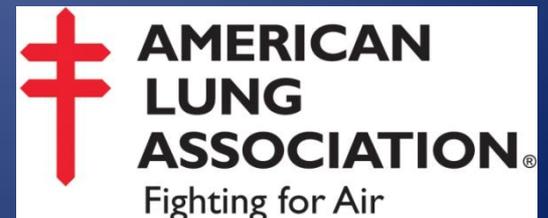
Sign the Clean Air Promise today!





# What Are We Doing?

- Public Health: American Lung Association
- Healthy Air Campaign—Red Carriage Events
- Lobby Days in DC
- Paid media campaign
- Coalition of public health leaders including Ohio Public Health Association, Ohio Nurses Association, Ohio Respiratory Care Society, Cleveland Clinic and others







 **AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION.**  
Fighting for Air

# CHILDHOOD ASTHMA ATTACKS. STRAIGHT FROM THE SOURCE.

Tell Washington: Don't weaken clean air protections.

**FightingForAir.org**

# Moms Clean Air Force



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**FORMER BOXER LAILA ALI: I JOINED MOMS CLEAN AIR FORCE**

to fight for clean air for my kids, Curtis and Sydney.

**FIGHT FOR YOUR KIDS**

## JOIN THE FORCE

Get updates and action alerts!

your email address

**JOIN US**

## WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT

[Ana Flores Attacking Clean Air Is A Personal Attack On Latinos](#)

[Abbie Walston Air Pollution is NOT Invisible – A Rant](#)

[Moms Clean Air Force Why I Risked Getting Arrested For My Child](#)

[Elisa Batista Do Latinos Care About Clean Air? YES!](#)

[Marcia Yerman "The TRAIN Act Cuts](#)

[Naptime Activism](#)

[Senator Udall: Moms Matter More Than Ever](#)

# Moms Clean Air Force

- Recruiting mothers, elected officials, community leaders, and decision makers
- Building a movement to increase awareness of the need for stronger clean air protections
- Convince our members of Congress that standing up for these protections is the right thing to do
- strong online presence with interactive national and Ohio-based websites, compelling blogs, and active Facebook and Twitter feeds.

# Moms Clean Air Force



# Why is this important to you?

- It is our moral obligation to address climate change now, and not pass this problem on to our children and grandchildren
- We need to protect the health of those disproportionately affected by air pollution
- Stewards of our Earth by preserving wildlife habitats and our natural heritage so it can be enjoyed by future generations

# What Can You Do?

- Sign a comment card today!
- Write a letter to the editor about your personal experiences
- Be willing to attend or speak at public events
- Sign up to like Ohio Cares About Clean Air or Moms Clean Air Force on Facebook

Know that we will make this  
**VERY EASY!**



For more information:

Tracy Sabetta

National Wildlife Federation

[tsabetta@initiativeohio.com](mailto:tsabetta@initiativeohio.com)