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**Rep. Rush Floor Statement in Opposition to
H.R. 910, the Upton-Inhofe ‘Dirty Air Act’**

WASHINGTON — “Mr. Speaker, I oppose H.R. 910, the Upton-Inhofe Dirty Air Act, because this bill is an extreme and excessive piece of legislation and it is simply bad public policy.

“This bill would ignore the warnings from the respected scientific community simply because policymakers do not like what that science is telling us, and it would place earnings and profits above protecting the public health.

“Mr. Speaker, H.R. 910 would prohibit the very agency that is responsible for protecting our air, the Environmental Protection Agency, from doing the job that it was established to do.

“I applaud the Obama Administration for making a clear and unequivocal statement yesterday that the President would veto this bill if it ever were to make it to his desk.

“Mr. Speaker, every respected and notable scientific organization, including the National Academy of Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Geophysical Union, the American Meteorological Society, the U.S. Global Change Research Program, as well as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, are all in agreement that man-made greenhouse gases *do* contribute to climate change, and these impacts can be mitigated through policy to curb these emissions.

“Additionally, many of the nation’s top public health advocacy groups, including the American Lung Association and the American Public Health Association, have come out strongly against this bill saying that it would leave our most vulnerable communities unprotected if this bill were to become law.

“Civil rights advocacy groups like the NAACP and the Environmental Law and Poverty Center have also weighed in, urging Congress to listen to the science and stand on the side of American children and families, rather than business interests, to protect the public health.

“Mr. Speaker, while I understand that many of my Republican colleagues are adamantly against any type of regulation or constraints on business, I have stood firmly against repealing the EPA’s ability to regulate greenhouse gases, first in my Energy and Power subcommittee, then in the full Energy and Commerce committee, and now here on the floor of the House.

“I strongly oppose this bill, not because I am against business making a profit, but because the experts who study the science behind climate change tell us that greenhouse gases contribute greatly to it, and passing this bill would have very negative consequences for the public’s health.

“As this *USA Today* poster here highlights, there are so many more benefits in acting to address climate change, as the science tells us we must do—including energy independence, sustainability, cleaner air and water, and a healthier populace, to name a few—than living with the status quo and hoping beyond hope that the majority of the world’s scientists are just plain wrong.

“And so, Mr. Speaker, I am opposed to this bill because the science compels me to be, and I urge all of my colleagues to oppose this bill as well.

“With that I yield back my time.”

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