

Floor Statement of Rep. Lois Capps
Safe Climate Caucus
July 24, 2013

Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was dismayed to see the Interior and Environment Appropriations Subcommittee approve a 2014 funding bill that cuts EPA funding by 34%. Such a drastic, unnecessary cut would prevent EPA from addressing critical air quality, water quality, and climate change issues that have direct impact on human health.

As everyone knows by now, we are already feeling the impacts of climate change – stronger storms, more severe droughts, hotter heat waves – but it is our children and our grandchildren who will bear the brunt of these impacts in the future.

Children are especially vulnerable to the effects of climate change. We've already seen that there are higher rates of asthma and infectious diseases in children, and these proposed cuts to EPA will only make things worse.

Mr. Speaker, we have the opportunity and the responsibility to act now to protect our children and our grandchildren from the impacts of climate change. I urge my colleagues: let's stop these short-sighted political games and start taking action to address climate change and protect the long-term health of future generations.