

Floor Statement of Rep. Jerry McNerney
Safe Climate Caucus
April 12, 2013

Mr. Speaker,

I rise today to shine light on the importance of reducing our carbon emissions and the role of electric vehicles in accomplishing that mission.

Today, we import about half the oil we consume, and approximately 70 percent of that is used for transportation. Consumers should have access to affordable transportation - such as electric vehicles - that use little or no gasoline.

Our nation's businesses are becoming more energy efficient, improving energy sources, and investing in cleaner transportation. The EV industry is a great job creator. For example, in my district there is an EV company that is producing great vehicles and bringing hundreds of jobs to the region. Moreover, there's a regional transit district that's utilizing electric and hybrid vehicles.

EV's are one part of the solution to reducing green house gas emissions and fighting climate change. They also play an important role in advancing a diverse American energy policy.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting clean electric vehicles on our roads and to make a commitment to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I yield back.