

# Chamber opposes bill

OKLAHOMA CITY - Like their oil industry counterparts, other Oklahoma business leaders have announced their opposition to the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009.

In a media release, officials with The State Chamber claimed the measure would have a negative effect on the state's economy. Chamber officials cited a study mentioned by Andrew Wheeler, a vice president with B and D Consulting. Wheeler discussed the study at the OIPA's fall conference in Oklahoma City. The study was conducted by Science Applications International Corp., using input assumptions by the National Association of Manufacturers and the American Council for Capital Formation.

"Oklahomans losing their job would cut back spending, causing other sectors to shrink, which would create a tragic domino effect on our job market," said Ronn Cupp, The State Chamber's senior vice president of government affairs. "Those fortunate enough to keep their jobs would put more money into simply paying their energy bills. This study confirms that the Waxman-Markey bill will have a negative impact on Oklahoma's economy as well as the rest of the nation."

By 2030, Cupp said, Oklahoma would lose more than 20,000 jobs and disposable household income would decrease by \$490 to \$883.

The Waxman-Markey bill aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and cap the amount of carbon emitted in the United States by mandating a cap-and-trade program and other provisions controlling fuel choices available to businesses and consumers. The bill was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives this summer. The Senate is working on its version of the bill. *-M. Scott Carter*