

## Petitions that the JPIC Office has signed in 2009

**Names of Petition: Action or Sent to: Updates on Petition:**

Summer 2009		
President Signs Legislation Placing Restrictions on the Credit Card Industry	Via on-line	Riding the wave of consumer distrust of the financial services industry, legislation placing restrictions on credit card companies sailed through Congress and were signed by the President. The Senate passed the Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act of 2009 on May 19 by a vote of 90-5. The House replaced a weaker version of the credit card bill it had approved in April with the Senate bill passing it 361-64 on May 20. The President signed the Act, PL 111-24, into law on May 22. To read the entire article visit Human Needs Coalition @ <a href="http://www.chn.org/humanneeds/090529a.html">http://www.chn.org/humanneeds/090529a.html</a>
Protection for Renters & Homeless Legislation Signed into Law	Via on-line	The Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009, PL 111-22, was signed by the President on May 20. This new law contains protections for renters and reauthorizes the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Programs. The Act had bipartisan support, passing the Senate by a vote of 91-5 on May 6, and the House 367-54 on May 19. To read the entire article visit Human Needs Coalition @ <a href="http://www.chn.org/humanneeds/090529c.html">http://www.chn.org/humanneeds/090529c.html</a>
Thank you note to Agricultural Secretary Tom Vilsack for taking a very important first step towards fulfilling the President's commitment to uphold and protect the 2001 Roadless Rule.	Via on-line	National Forest road less areas are the last remaining strongholds for grizzly bears, wolves, elk, salmon, and trout. The forests protected by this rule provide vital habitat for 1,500 wildlife species, safeguard drinking water supplies for 60 million Americans, and ensure quality recreation for millions of hikers, fishermen, and hunters. To advocate visit Earth Justice @ <a href="http://action.earthjustice.org/campaign/roadless_0509a/forward">http://action.earthjustice.org/campaign/roadless_0509a/forward</a>
"Pass the Matthew Shepard Act"	Via on-line	While all violent crimes are heinous, hate crimes are uniquely destructive, casting a pall of terror over an entire community. They don't just target a single victim. They are designed to "send a message" that an individual and "their kind" will not be tolerated, often leaving large numbers of people feeling isolated, vulnerable and unprotected. A law protecting <b>all</b> of our citizens against senseless hate violence is long overdue. To advocate go to <a href="http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/711774951">http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/711774951</a> .
"Help END the #1 genetic killer of young children!"	Via on-line	Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), the #1 genetic killer of young children! Some facts about SMA: SMA is the #1 genetic killer of young children, Fewer than 1 in 35 people unknowingly carrying the gene responsible for SMA, 1 in every 6,000 babies is born with SMA; SMA prevalence is comparable to ALS and Cystic Fibrosis, SMA impacts the ability to walk, sit, stand, eat, breathe, and swallow. SMA does not impact the mind and children with SMA are bright and social. For more information and to advocate go to <a href="http://www.thepetitionsite.com/182/petition-to-cure-SMA">http://www.thepetitionsite.com/182/petition-to-cure-SMA</a>
Urging to Congress to Reform Immigration this year	Via on-line	Asking and urging your reps in Congress to reform immigration this year. It's needed and long overdue! To immediately advocates go to <a href="http://www.reformimmigrationforamerica.org">http://www.reformimmigrationforamerica.org</a> Unbelievable! Last week, we launched the campaign to Reform Immigration For America with a huge Summit in DC, a national Town Hall meeting, and 44 local launches across the country. We asked you to help us make a splash with Congress by sending 20,000 faxes and making 2,500 calls in one week. <b>Instead, you knocked our socks off by sending more than 125,000 faxes to Congress and making 7,500 phone calls to Congressional leaders.</b> Wow, wow, wow. Thank you. And just to remind Congress about the faxes visit <a href="http://salsa.wiredforchange.com/o/5691/campaign.jsp?campaign_KEY=2795">http://salsa.wiredforchange.com/o/5691/campaign.jsp?campaign_KEY=2795</a>
Stand with Obama: Support a Public Health Insurance Option: Speaking out for health care reform	Via on-line	On Wednesday June 3, President Obama reaffirmed his support for a public health insurance option--the key piece of health care reform that will provide coverage for all Americans and help bring costs down. But as the health care fight heats up, right-wing lobbyists and conservatives in Congress are working hard to kill the public health insurance option. To speak out go to <a href="http://pol.moveon.org/popetition/">http://pol.moveon.org/popetition/</a>
The EPA wants your opinion on endosulfan: tell them to ban this toxic pesticide.	Via on-line	Tell EPA to Protect Us from the Toxic Pesticide Endosulfan New Public Comment Period. Last year more than ten thousand UFW supporters signed our petition asking the EPA to ban endosulfan--an antiquated and dangerous pesticide. We've got their attention, but so far nothing has happened. However, the new Obama EPA has just re-opened the public comment period regarding this deadly pesticide. The UFW is again working with a coalition of our environmental friends to turn in a joint petition on <b>June 24</b> to show the EPA how concerned the American public is. <b>Please TAKE ACTION</b> today and demand change by signing this petition and demanding that the

		EPA ensures that no residues of endosulfan are found in food sold in the U.S. Tell the new EPA chief Lisa Jackson that this risk is unacceptable and something needs to be done now. Go to <a href="http://www.ufwaction.org/campaign/endosulfan609/bb5eew4h7xixx73">http://www.ufwaction.org/campaign/endosulfan609/bb5eew4h7xixx73</a>
California Employee Free Choice Act	Via on-line	Please take action today and tell them to pass SB789, a bill that will give farm workers the power to protect themselves. This bill will make it easier for farm workers to organize, speak up to improve working conditions and help enforce the laws that CA's government cannot enforce. SB789 passed the CA state senate and will next be heard in the assembly and then go to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. To advocate go to <a href="http://www.ufwaction.org/campaign/blueberriesheat/bb5eew9a7x8iib8">http://www.ufwaction.org/campaign/blueberriesheat/bb5eew9a7x8iib8</a>
Pass the American Clean Energy and Security Act (H.R. 2454	Via on-line	Many of us look forward to long hot summer days. But for many others, including penguins, polar bears and wildlife across North America, increasingly warm weather only means a greater threat to survival. Your U.S. representative has the power to cap global warming pollution this year, helping to jumpstart our clean energy economy and restore the natural world for our children's future To advocate go to <a href="http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/947742665?z00m=19767716">http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/947742665?z00m=19767716</a>
More Advocacy Needed to Stop Massive IL State Budget Cuts	Via on-line	Thanks to all of you who contacted their state legislators at the end of May asking them to support a tax increase to pay for human service programs. Unfortunately, because the General Assembly and Governor Quinn failed to agree on revenue increases, the General Assembly passed a budget for the next fiscal year, beginning July 1, that includes devastating cuts. To advocate visit <a href="http://housingmatters.net/default.asp">http://housingmatters.net/default.asp</a>
Tell the Department of Homeland Security to improve the treatment of asylum seekers immediately	Via on-line @ Human Rights First	Each year, thousands of men and women flee persecution in their own countries to seek asylum and protection in the United States. But when they arrive here, many of these asylum seekers find themselves held in jails and jail-like facilities, often without any opportunity to have a judge review the need for their continued detention. Right now, the new leadership of the Department of Homeland Security has an opportunity to make things right, but we need your help to make sure they know the public is demanding change. Please write the Department of Homeland Security today and urge them to improve the treatment of asylum seekers immediately! To advocate <a href="http://action.humanrightsfirst.org/campaign/asy_prisons/87e887i2v7wtm67i?">http://action.humanrightsfirst.org/campaign/asy_prisons/87e887i2v7wtm67i?</a>
Support a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone in the Middle East	Via on-line	Recently in Cairo, President Obama said, "It is clear to all concerned that when it comes to nuclear weapons, we have reached a decisive point. This is...about preventing a nuclear arms race in the Middle East that could lead this region and the world down a hugely dangerous path." The good news is that all countries party to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) agreed in 1995 to exert their utmost efforts to establish a "Middle East zone free of nuclear and all other weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems." The bad news is that this agreement was made 14 years ago, and to date there has been no progress. However, most countries in the Middle East see this agreement as linked to the indefinite extension of the NPT. <b>Write to President Obama today and ask him to use the convening power of the United States to begin negotiations on a Middle East Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (NWFZ). Go to <a href="http://capwiz.com/wagingpeace/issues/alert/?alertid=13535261">http://capwiz.com/wagingpeace/issues/alert/?alertid=13535261</a></b>
Protect Workers Rights	Via on-line	The economic recession has taken a huge toll on the working and middle class; <b>the backbone of our country is struggling against stagnant wages, longer work hours, higher health care costs and disappearing retirement plans. As employers take a more aggressive anti-union stance, we need to fight for worker's rights and stop employee intimidation.</b> To advocate go to <a href="http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/Protect-Workers-Rights">http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/Protect-Workers-Rights</a>
Protect your drinking water from toxic chemicals	Via on-line	Did you know that the oil and gas industry, thanks to Dick Cheney and his old friends at Halliburton, are exempted from the Safe Drinking Water Act? Thankfully, concerned members of Congress in both the House and Senate have recently introduced legislation to close the "Halliburton Loophole" and ensure that Big Oil has to follow the same laws that every other industry does. H.R. 2766, introduced by Diana DeGette (D-CO), Maurice Hinchey (D-NY), and Jared Polis (D-CO); and S. 1215 introduced by Bob Casey (D-PA) and Chuck Schumer (D-NY) would regulate hydraulic fracturing under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Please contact your congressperson and senators and ask them to cosponsor these important pieces of legislation. Go to <a href="http://action.earthjustice.org/campaign/hydrofracturing_0609/i88isds2r77n353w?">http://action.earthjustice.org/campaign/hydrofracturing_0609/i88isds2r77n353w?</a>
Tell EPA to Act Now on Climate Change	Via on-line	After years of delay and denial from past administrations, the Environmental Protection Agency is finally taking steps to declare that greenhouse gas emissions threaten the public's health and welfare. The time has come for this action, and we need to encourage the EPA to move swiftly on it. To advocate visit <a href="http://action.earthjustice.org/campaign/endangerment_0609/i88isds2a777nw7k?">http://action.earthjustice.org/campaign/endangerment_0609/i88isds2a777nw7k?</a>

Please strengthen and support ACES	Via on-line	Last month (May), the House Energy & Commerce Committee took a huge step towards jumpstarting our economy with clean energy jobs when they passed the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (ACES). Now, this legislation will be voted on as soon as next week in the House. Passing this legislation will bring us closer than ever to truly putting us on a path to a clean energy future. But, Big Oil is doing everything in their power to derail this legislation. Will you contact your Member of Congress to insist that this bill is strengthened and passed? To advocate visit <a href="http://action.lcv.org/campaign/aces_0609/iwg8iwb2yin3d8w3?">http://action.lcv.org/campaign/aces_0609/iwg8iwb2yin3d8w3?</a>
Send a letter to President Obama, urging him to announce his plan for Sudan NOW.	Via on-line	More than two months ago, President Obama reminded us of his commitment and obligation to end the atrocities in Darfur. Since then, we've been anxiously waiting to see his plan for peace. By publicly releasing his plan, President Obama can rally other nations to do everything they can to support peace as well. We're waiting, the people of Darfur are waiting, and time is running out. Please join us and send a message to President Obama urging him to announce his plan for Sudan NOW. Click below to send your letter to President Obama: <a href="http://action.savedarfur.org/campaign/obamarollout">http://action.savedarfur.org/campaign/obamarollout</a>
American Christians' support of Israeli-Palestinian peacemaking will be clearly heard by the Obama Administration.	Via on-line	Over fifty American Christian leaders and congregants of the Catholic, Evangelical, Protestant, Orthodox and historic African American traditions have joined together to declare their support for robust U.S. peacemaking efforts and to call for meaningful progress to achieve a just and lasting two-state peace. Please <a href="#">add your name</a> to the Christians Support Bold Action for Holy Land Peace campaign today and join your fellow American Christians in supporting strong peace efforts by the Obama Administration. Visit <a href="http://action.cmep.org/t/4029/signUp.jsp?key=1013">http://action.cmep.org/t/4029/signUp.jsp?key=1013</a> to add your name.
Global Warming is Here -- Will Congress Act? Support the American Clean Energy and Security Act	Via on-line @ Wildlife & Friends Committee on National Legislation	Our wildlife is already feeling the effects of global warming. Polar bears and ring seals are rapidly losing sea ice habitat. Increased fires, insect pests, disease and invasive weeds are already affecting 33 million acres of our forests. Our deserts are becoming hotter and drier. And without urgent action, things will get even worse. Fortunately, Congress is poised to take an important first step in addressing climate change -- lending a much-needed hand to polar bears and other wildlife that are already feeling the heat. Write your Representative today and urge support for the American Clean Energy & Security Act sponsored by Reps. Waxman and Markey (H.R. 2454). To advocate visit <a href="https://secure.defenders.org/site/Advocacy?pagename=homepage&amp;page=UserAction&amp;id=1485&amp;autologin=true&amp;JServSessionIdr011=9urrazx72.app24a">https://secure.defenders.org/site/Advocacy?pagename=homepage&amp;page=UserAction&amp;id=1485&amp;autologin=true&amp;JServSessionIdr011=9urrazx72.app24a</a> <b>*Act Now: House Failing Test on Climate Change:</b> Leaders in the House plan to force a final vote very soon on the important but flawed climate change legislation. The American Clean Energy and Security Act (H.R. 2454) fails to ensure that U.S. greenhouse gas emissions will be cut quickly, deeply, and effectively. We at FCNL have been urging House committee members to strengthen the bill by eliminating concessions that would allow polluters to increase their greenhouse gas emissions for well over a decade. <b>Urge Your Rep. to Work for Climate Change:</b> go to <a href="http://capwiz.com/fconl/issues/alert/?alertid=13185856">http://capwiz.com/fconl/issues/alert/?alertid=13185856</a> and advocate now!
A PETITION TO CONGRESS Supporting Single-Payer Health Care	Via on-line @ Senator Bernie Sanders petition site	Our current private health insurance system is the most costly, wasteful, complicated and bureaucratic in the world. Today, <b>46 million</b> people have no health insurance. Even more are underinsured with high deductibles and co-payments. Close to 20,000 Americans die each year because they don't have regular access to a doctor. To sign this petition visit <a href="http://sanders.senate.gov/petitions/index.cfm?uid=7fd59f2e-88e1-477a-8eaf-762a5b050809">http://sanders.senate.gov/petitions/index.cfm?uid=7fd59f2e-88e1-477a-8eaf-762a5b050809</a>
Ask the Senate to Work Across the Aisle to pass meaningful reform that lowers costs and expands access to care is to ensure both sides work together from beginning to end.	Via on-line	The Senate took the first step this week toward crafting reform legislation without playing politics. But opponents of reform are already spending millions trying to turn Washington into a partisan battleground. At Divided We Fail, we know the only way to pass meaningful reform that lowers costs and expands access to care is to ensure both sides work together from beginning to end. Send a message to your senators and ask them to keep their promise to work across the aisle to reform health care. Visit <a href="https://secure2.convio.net/aarp/site/Advocacy?pagename=homepage&amp;page=UserAction&amp;id=385&amp;autologin=true&amp;JServSessionIdr011=js7vql01f2.app27a">https://secure2.convio.net/aarp/site/Advocacy?pagename=homepage&amp;page=UserAction&amp;id=385&amp;autologin=true&amp;JServSessionIdr011=js7vql01f2.app27a</a>
Sign for Fair Taxes to Invest for the Common Good	Via on-line	To rebuild our economy and expand opportunity and security for all, we need to sustain and strengthen our public investments -- in education, health care, infrastructure, and other vital supports. Adequate revenues are needed to finance these critical investments in our shared economic prosperity and to put our nation on a sustainable fiscal path. To sign this statement go to <a href="http://salsa.democracyinaction.org/o/125/petition.jsp?petition_KEY=1967">http://salsa.democracyinaction.org/o/125/petition.jsp?petition_KEY=1967</a>

Pledge to Fight for Health Care Reform That Meets the Needs of Women & Their Families	Via on-line	Too many women struggle to get the health care they need. The consequences of our broken health care system can greatly damage women's health, work, and financial well-being. Take the pledge to fight for health care reform that meets the needs of women and their families. To pledge go to <a href="http://action.nwlc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=Reform_Matters_Health_Care_Reform_Pledge&amp;autologin=true">http://action.nwlc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=Reform_Matters_Health_Care_Reform_Pledge&amp;autologin=true</a>
Urge support for clean water restoration act:	Via on-line	On June 18, the Clean Water Restoration Act (S.787) was to be marked by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. Please urge senators to co-sponsor and support this important legislation. (Capitol Switchboard: 202-224-3121). For additional information and to send an e-mail to senators see <a href="http://www.NCCejojustice.org">www.NCCejojustice.org</a> , <b>click Take Action on the left, and scroll down to Water.</b>
Why not us? Environment Illinois's Grassroots for a clean energy revolution	Via on-line	Nearly 5,000 of our members and supporters like you have already urged Congress to include green building standards in the legislation being crafted in response to President Obama's call for action on clean energy. Environment Illinois staffs are also sounding the alarm, persuading members of Congress to sign onto a letter of support. But time is running short and we need your help now more than ever. Will you join us by clicking here to <a href="http://www.environmentillinois.org/action/clean-energy/green-buildings?id4=ES">http://www.environmentillinois.org/action/clean-energy/green-buildings?id4=ES</a>
Great news! U.S. set to pay off UN debt	Via on-line @ Better World Campaign: Dedicated to a strong U.S. -UN relationship	Each year, Congress is responsible for approving and allocating the payments requested by the President for U.S. assessed contributions to the United Nations' regular and peacekeeping budgets. Currently, the U.S. is assessed 22% of the UN regular budget and 26% for UN peacekeeping operations. For many years, due to Administration and Congressional underfunding, the U.S. fell well behind in its treaty-obligated payments to the UN. But in June 2009, Congress voted for and the President signed legislation that erases all the debts that had been building over the last decade. Click the following link to see an Overview on how the U.S. Funding for the UN: <a href="http://www.betterworldcampaign.org/issues/funding/us-funding-for-the-un-an-overview.html">http://www.betterworldcampaign.org/issues/funding/us-funding-for-the-un-an-overview.html</a>
House Appropriations committee approves Agriculture bill	Via on-line from Catholic Charities USA website	On June 11, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture approved by voice vote a FY 2010 spending bill that would provide \$22.9 billion in discretionary spending, \$79 million less than the Administration's budget request, but more than FY 2009 spending levels. The bill will now receive consideration by the full House Appropriations committee in a mark-up scheduled for June 18. To view a summary table of the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee recommendations, please click <a href="http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/FY2010_Ag_Summary_Table%20SubC-06-11-2009.pdf">http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/FY2010_Ag_Summary_Table%20SubC-06-11-2009.pdf</a>
Ethanol industry attacking science	Via on-line Union of concerned Scientists	The EPA is holding a public comment period through <b>July 27</b> on their proposed standards. Please tell Administrator Lisa Jackson that the best science must be incorporated into the RFS to ensure that bio-fuels truly become part of a clean transportation future. To send her a letter visit <a href="https://secure3.convio.net/ucs/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&amp;page=UserAction&amp;id=2043">https://secure3.convio.net/ucs/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&amp;page=UserAction&amp;id=2043</a>