

Governors' Ethanol Coalition

March 12, 2002

The Honorable Tom Daschle  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Trent Lott  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Daschle, Senator Lott:

On behalf of the 27 members of the Governors' Ethanol Coalition, we are writing to express our strong support for the provisions included in the Energy Policy Act of 2002 (S. 517), which will establish a national renewable fuels standard.

The provisions set forth in the Manager's Amendment to S. 517 reflect an agreement negotiated over the last two years by the states, agricultural interests, refiners, and the environmental community that will address such important issues as MTBE water contamination and the oxygenate requirement in reformulated gasoline while providing a significant market for renewable fuels such as ethanol and biodiesel. Specifically, we support those provisions in S.517 that:

- \* Create a national renewable fuels standard, ensuring a growing part of our nation's fuel supply, up to 5 billion gallons by 2012, is provided by domestic, renewable fuels;
- \* Eliminate the use of MTBE in the United States within four years;
- \* Eliminate the oxygenate requirement in the reformulated gasoline program; and
- \* Maintain the air quality gains of the reformulated gasoline program.

By enacting these provisions, we will strengthen our national security, displace imported oil from politically unstable regions, stimulate ethanol and biodiesel production, expand domestic energy supplies, and continue to reduce air pollution.

We encourage you to support these provisions and to resist any amendments that would alter this landmark agreement.

Sincerely,

Bob Holden  
Governor of Missouri and  
Chair, Governors' Ethanol Coalition

John Hoeven  
Governor of North Dakota and  
Vice Chair, Governors' Ethanol Coalition

Mike Johanns Governor of Nebraska and  
Past Chair, Governors' Ethanol Coalition

c. The Honorable Harry Reid, Assistant Majority Leader  
The Honorable Don Nickles, Assistant Minority Leader  
The Honorable Jeff Bingaman, Chairman, Senate Energy & Natural  
Resources Committee  
The Honorable Frank Murkowski, Ranking Minority Member,  
Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee