



February 16, 2010

## Where Do We Go From Here?

Monday was the last scheduled public hearing on Governor Doyle's global warming bill. There are two identical versions of the bill, AB 649 in the Assembly and SB 450 in the Senate. What comes next? The committee chairs will bring the bills into an executive session, where the bills will be voted on and possibly amended. If the bills pass in committee, they may be brought before the full Legislature for a vote.

I would expect the bills to pass if committee votes were held today, given the comments made by committee members throughout the public hearings. Most likely, each Democrat would vote yes.

It remains to be seen whether there will be any amendments. The co-authors have stated there may be some changes made to the bills. Amendments could be introduced in committee or on the floor of the Assembly or Senate. The bill is such a bad piece of legislation, however, I do not expect meaningful compromise to be possible. **I remain opposed to AB 649/SB 450 in its entirety.**

- Passing a bill whose purpose is to make our climate colder when temperatures have been falling is not good public policy.
- Passing a bill based on science that we now know to be seriously flawed doesn't make sense.
- Passing legislation to further damage our fragile economy is simply inexcusable.

At last Wednesday's hearing, one of the authors made the outrageous comment that he didn't really know whether the "science" was real. But he said he still thinks there is a need for this legislation.

What??? One of the bill's own authors essentially admits to not knowing if there is a problem, but still demands legislation to require skyrocketing energy prices, thousands of lost manufacturing jobs and other oppressive mandates and regulations?

Meanwhile, last weekend might have been the first time in recorded weather history that all 50 states had some level of snow on the ground at the same time, thanks to another winter of below average temperatures across much of the country.

And in the midst of the ongoing Climategate scandal, new questions are being raised about material included in the most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, long considered the gold standard for those who believe that man is warming the climate. (More to follow in the next *Hot Air Report*.)

The Legislature has four weeks of regular session remaining. If AB 649/SB 450 doesn't make it to the Assembly or Senate by the week of April 15<sup>th</sup>, this issue will likely be dead for the remainder of the session. My goal remains to stop this job killing bill from becoming law in Wisconsin.

Now is the time to keep the pressure on the Democrat-controlled Legislature to let them know of your opposition to AB 649/SB 450. Don't forget to notify your friends and relatives in other parts of the state and ask them to do the same. You can find your senators and representatives at [www.legis.wi.gov](http://www.legis.wi.gov).

I will continue keeping you informed of any developments in the coming days and weeks. Access all my reports online, at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/assembly/asm23/news/media.htm>.

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