



High energy prices cause hardship for families, schools, businesses, and manufacturers in Alabama. It is my belief that the U.S. is too dependent on expensive foreign oil. There are a variety of possible solutions and we have the power to begin to achieve our own "energy independence."

The answer is a balanced energy policy. Solar and wind power are promising sources of renewable energy. The U.S. has significant domestic oil and natural gas resources, but by law many of these areas are currently off-limits to responsible development. Clean coal is part of the solution, especially in Alabama where a large portion of our electricity is generated from coal. However, what is abundantly clear is that expanded use of nuclear power must be part of the solution. The U.S. is lagging far behind France, China, and India in construction of nuclear power plants. We simply cannot achieve greater energy security without nuclear.

Alabama is taking its own leadership role through the development of alternative fuels. The I-65 Clean Corridor Initiative is one such example.

One of the major issues currently facing Congress is so-called "cap and trade" legislation. In my view, the high energy taxes from this legislation would pose a great burden on families and businesses in Alabama that are already struggling just to make ends meet.

[Issues Homepage](#)