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WASHINGTON – Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6) summarized his week-long district tour by saying that his constituents in Alabama have a clear message for Washington: pass a comprehensive energy bill to help bring down high gasoline prices and achieve American energy security.

Bachus held public meetings throughout the Sixth District to talk about solutions to the high energy costs that are causing hardship for families, local governments that provide essential services, schools, nonprofits, businesses, and manufacturers. The intense public interest was demonstrated by large attendance at the events, including the biggest ever turnout for a Chilton County Chamber of Commerce luncheon; a packed town hall meeting in Helena; and a Bibb County luncheon that attracted more than 100 people.

Congressman Bachus said, “During my years in Congress, I have never had more people talk to me about an issue more than high gas prices. So me of my constituents are choosing between filling their gas tank and putting food on the table.

They are also concerned about our dangerous dependence on foreign oil.

The good news is that we can solve this problem with a balanced approach that involves more domestic production, conservation, and advanced technology.

While expanded drilling offshore and in Alaska are needed over the short term to increase oil and gas supplies, the long-term answer is energy diversity including nuclear, coal, solar, and wind power.

Nuclear power is the key.

It is clean, efficient, cheap, and homegrown.

From an economic perspective, the construction of one nuclear power plant in Alabama would generate 6,000 construction jobs, nearly 900 permanent jobs, \$300 million in tax revenue for Alabama, and lower

energy bills for consumers.

To sum up, when it comes to energy, we need to do it all and do it now.”

Bachus urged both parties to work to bring an energy bill to the House floor for a vote.

Bachus discussed solutions to America’s energy problems during a series of public meetings and media

interviews that included: an appearance on Fox 6-Birmingham's "Good Day Alabama;" an interview at the Birmingham Business Journal; a Chilton County Chamber of Commerce luncheon; an interview at the Clanton Advertiser; a town hall meeting in Helena; a luncheon address to federal judges from the Northern District of Alabama; a news interview at WZZK-FM, Birmingham; a Gardendale Chamber/Rotary Luncheon; a town hall meeting in Pell City; a Jefferson/Shelby County elected officials breakfast; and a Bibb County Luncheon.