



Senator Carper's Work to Reauthorize Diesel Emissions Reduction Act Benefits Delaware's and Nation's Environment and Economy

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Washington, D.C. (Vocus/PRWEB) January 04, 2011 -- U.S. Senator Tom Carper's (D-DE) bipartisan leadership in successfully reauthorizing the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) will continue the legislation's important environmental and economic benefits for Delaware and the entire nation, according to Allen Schaeffer, executive director of the Diesel Technology Forum (DTF).

"DERA's passage during the final hours of the 111th Congress was an important environmental and economic achievement for our nation," Schaeffer said. "It's a tribute to Senator Carper's leadership that he and Senator George Voinovich (R-OH) were able to get DERA overwhelmingly approved in both the House and Senate.

"Without a doubt, DERA is an extremely important environmental initiative for reducing emissions and improving our air quality. In fact, the American Lung Association ranks DERA's passage as one of the biggest clean air events of 2010.

When Measured In Tons Per Kilometer 90% Of Global Trade Is Diesel-Powered

"However, DERA is also important to America's economic growth and job creation. Diesel engines power over 95 percent of all of our nation's commercial trucks and school buses, and an overwhelming majority of our ships, ferries, locomotives, tractors and farm and construction equipment. The efficiency of these diesel-powered vehicles is vital to every segment of America's economy. In fact, when measured in tons per kilometer, more than 90 percent of the world's global trade is diesel-powered.

"The combination of new clean diesel technology and ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel has helped to reduce diesel emissions to near zero levels for new buses, trucks and off-road equipment. Now the older engines that continue to power our economy will also benefit from the upgraded engines and filters provided by DERA. This legislation will accelerate the introduction of even more clean diesel technology to as many of our older diesel engines as possible."

DERA Background

- * DERA was created by Senators Carper and Voinovich and passed into law in 2005.
- * The new DERA reauthorization was approved by the Senate on December 16, 2010 and by the House on December 21, 2010. When signed into law by President Obama, the new legislation will reauthorize DERA for another five years.
- * The legislation authorizes \$100 million annually for five years, for a total of \$500 million, however the actual annual amount will depend on each year's funding appropriation.
- * According to EPA, every \$1 spent on DERA upgrades has resulted in \$13 worth of health and environmental benefits.
- * DERA is supported by more than 500 environmental, health, industry, labor and government organizations.
- * Since 2006, new ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel has reduced sulfur emissions by 97 percent. Just as taking the lead out of gasoline in the 1970s enabled a new generation of emissions control technologies that have made gasoline vehicles over 95 percent cleaner, removing the sulfur from diesel help usher in a new generation of



clean diesel technology.

ABOUT THE DIESEL TECHNOLOGY FORUM

The Diesel Technology Forum is a non-profit national organization dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of diesel engines, fuel and technology. Forum members are leaders in clean diesel technology and represent the three key elements of the modern clean-diesel system: advanced engines, vehicles and equipment, cleaner diesel fuel and emissions-control systems. For more information visit www.dieselforum.org.

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