

tom mullins for congress

I respectfully ask for your vote

PO Box 256, Farmington, NM 87499 505-801-1566
paid for by mullinsforcongress.com Tom Dugan - Treasurer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

11/01/2009

Contact: Tom Mullins -
Tom Mullins for
U.S. House of Representatives
3rd Congressional District
Mullins for Congress
P.O. Box 256
Farmington, NM 87499
505.801.1566
Email:tom@mullinsforcongress.com
Website:www.mullinsforcongress.com

Tom Mullins U.S. House of Representative District 3 Candidate comments on H.R. 3585 Solar Roadmap Act

Tom Mullins today made a statement regarding some of the recent legislation in the United States House of Representatives.

Ben Ray Luján, current U.S. Representative, recently co-sponsored H.R. 3585: Solar Technology Roadmap Act with an estimated cost to taxpayers of over 2.25 Billion Dollars in the next five years. “The bill sounds good in principle, but in reality it is the same wasteful federal government spending.” said Mullins. The bill passed the House, 310 in favor to 106 opposed, on October 22nd.

The bill allows the Secretary of Energy to grant our tax dollars to non-profitable businesses, creates an 11 member Solar Technology Roadmap Committee, and continues subsidizing the Department of Energy’s never ending study of alternative energy.

New Mexicans are surprised to learn that the bill offers little improvement from similar legislation from more than 35 years ago: The Solar Energy Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1974. History has a way of repeating itself, except today, we cannot afford to spend our precious tax dollars with reckless abandon.

Mullins believes that rather than allowing the federal government to pick the winners and losers in the alternative energy marketplace, that American citizens should be encouraged to install both thermal solar and photo-voltaic solar systems directly on their homes. The existing infrastructure is already present, the electrical grid is already connected, and our precious public lands can be protected from the impact of low density power generation. “A robust net-metering

policy to ensure homeowners an adequate return on their renewable energy investment must be a part of solar legislation.” said Mullins.

The bill does nothing to reduce New Mexico’s dependence upon foreign oil, as Representative Luján stated. Germany is not an example for New Mexico to follow regarding governmental solar power incentives. Taxpayers in Germany currently subsidize solar electricity at a rate of 59 cents per kilo-watt hour, as well as being burdened with more than \$ 240,000 in incentives for each solar job created by the German government. A recent study indicated that Germany’s solar energy efforts have increased the average German citizen’s electric bill by nearly 8 percent. Mullins stated, “Mandates by our Federal Government and Representative Luján are forcing New Mexicans to pay more for energy, and this bill does not allow New Mexicans to keep more of their hard earned money.”

The stark reality is that the Federal Government has failed in its efforts to improve access to affordable energy. This expenditure by our Federal Government is unnecessary and outside of the scope of the Constitution of the United States.

The only roadmap created by the Federal Government with this legislation is the road to serfdom. “As Congressman, I will reduce Federal Government expenditures and allow you, individual New Mexicans, the freedom to choose how best to live your daily life and to become more energy independent.” said Mullins.

END