



# Governors' Ethanol Coalition

• **Minnesota** Gov. Tim Pawlenty, Chair • **Kansas** Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, Vice Chair • **Illinois** Gov. Rod Blagojevich, Past Chair

**Arizona** Gov. Janet Napolitano  
**Arkansas** Gov. Mike Huckabee  
**Colorado** Gov. Bill Owens  
**Hawaii** Gov. Linda Lingle  
**Idaho** Gov. Dirk Kempthorne  
**Indiana** Gov. Mitch Daniels  
**Iowa** Gov. Thomas Vilsack

**Kentucky** Gov. Ernie Fletcher  
**Michigan** Gov. Jennifer Granholm  
**Mississippi** Gov. Haley Barbour  
**Missouri** Gov. Matt Blunt  
**Montana** Gov. Brian Schweitzer  
**Nebraska** Gov. Dave Heineman  
**New Mexico** Gov. Bill Richardson

**North Carolina** Gov. Mike Easley  
**North Dakota** Gov. John Hoeven  
**Ohio** Gov. Bob Taft  
**Oklahoma** Gov. Brad Henry  
**Oregon** Gov. Ted Kulongoski  
**Puerto Rico** Gov. Anibal Acevedo-Vilá  
**South Carolina** Gov. Mark Sanford

**South Dakota** Gov. Mike Rounds  
**Tennessee** Gov. Phil Bredesen  
**Texas** Gov. Rick Perry  
**Washington** Gov. Christine Gregoire  
**Wisconsin** Gov. Jim Doyle  
**Wyoming** Gov. Dave Freudenthal

• **International alliances with Brazil, Canada, Mexico, Sweden and Thailand** •

June 9, 2005

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
731 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Lugar  
306 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Barack Obama  
713 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Norm Coleman  
320 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senators:

On behalf of the thirty members of the Governors' Ethanol Coalition, we strongly support and endorse the *National Security and Bioenergy Investment Act of 2005*, as well as your efforts to expand development of other biofuels and co-products. The Governors' Ethanol Coalition is pleased that this bill embodies the recommendations developed by the Coalition in *Ethanol From Biomass: America's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Transportation Fuel*. When signed into law, this act will catalyze needed research, production, and use of biofuels and bio-based products, thereby enhancing our economic, environmental, and national security.

The Coalition believes that the nation's dependency on imported oil presents a huge risk to this country's future. The combination of political tensions in major oil-producing nations with growing oil demand from China and India is seriously threatening our national security. Moreover, as we import greater amounts of oil each year, we are draining more and more of the wealth from our states.

The key provisions contained in your bill bring focus and resources to biomass-derived ethanol research and commercialization efforts. The result, over time, will be the replacement of significant amounts of imported oil with domestically produced fuels — improving our rural economies, cleaning our air, and contributing to our national security. Of particular importance is the bill's aim to broaden ethanol production to include all regions of the nation so that many more states will reap the benefits of biofuels.

Again, thank you for inclusion of the Coalition's recommendations in this landmark legislation. Please let us know how the Coalition can help with the passage of this very important legislation. The continued expansion of ethanol production and use, particularly biomass-derived fuels, and the accompanying economic growth and environmental benefits for our states is essential to the nation's long-term economic vitality and national security.

Sincerely,

Tim Pawlenty, Chair  
Governor of Minnesota

Kathleen Sebelius, Vice Chair  
Governor of Kansas