

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Ben Ray Luján of New Mexico’s Third District joined with a number of his colleagues today to introduce the New Alternative Transportation to Give Americans Solutions (NAT GAS) Act of 2011. As a member of the Natural Gas Caucus, Luján has been working to promote the production of natural gas vehicles that will help reduce our dependence on foreign oil and reduce carbon emissions and pollution.

“Harnessing our abundant natural gas resources in New Mexico and around the country and using them in our vehicles is a critical step toward ending our dependence on foreign oil and bringing down gas prices,” Congressman Luján said. “This legislation provides vital tax incentives that will help spur production of natural gas vehicles and the infrastructure necessary to put more of these vehicles on the road, creating good jobs right here at home. Encouraging the use of clean burning natural gas will also help reduce greenhouse gases and protect our environment.”

The NAT GAS Act will encourage private investment by creating and expanding tax credits for the purchase of natural gas-fueled vehicles and the installation of natural gas vehicle refueling properties. The bill also makes Tribes eligible for these tax credits. In addition, this legislation directs the Department of Energy to provide funding for research and development to improve the performance and efficiency of natural gas vehicles.

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