Step it up 2007
Lichgate
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Dear Friends,

It is a pleasure to bring you greetings and a warm welcome as you gather for the “Step it Up 2007” National Day of Action. I commend you on your efforts to protect the environment and promote awareness on the issue of global warming.

Global warming threatens Florida’s fragile ecosystem and $65 billion tourism industry. Rising sea levels will encroach on Florida’s pristine beaches and harm coastal wetlands and the Everglades. Increased carbon dioxide and water temperatures will damage sensitive coral reefs and endanger Florida’s diverse marine species. A recent scientific study by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change concluded with 90 percent certainty that global warming is caused by the accumulation of man-made greenhouse gasses.

I am a cosponsor of several important bills that address these issues. America’s Climate Security Act will establish the core of a federal program to reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions substantially enough between 2007 and 2050 to avert catastrophic global warming. The greenhouse-gas emissions cap in America’s Climate Security Act covers U.S. electric power, transportation, and manufacturing sources that together account for 75% of U.S. greenhouse-gas emissions. The cap over those sources starts at the 2005 emission level in 2012 and then lowers year-by-year at a constant, gradual rate, such that it reaches the 1990 emissions level (15% below the 2005 emissions level) in 2020 and 65% below the 1990 emissions level (70% below the 2005 emissions level) in 2050.

The Climate Stewardship and Innovation Act (CSIA) is a bipartisan bill that would cap the greenhouse gas emissions of the electric power, industrial, transportation, and commercial sectors of the economy at year 2004 levels by 2012. By gradually lowering this cap and creating financial incentives to develop clean-burning energy, we can lower emissions and forestall catastrophic global warming.

The Dependence Reduction through Innovation in Vehicles and Energy (DRIVE) Act would dramatically reduce our use of fossil fuels by increasing the availability of alternative transportation fuels, providing incentives for the purchase of hybrid and flexible-fuel vehicles, and spurring development for next-generation fuels and hybrid