

GROWING A STRONG ECONOMY TOGETHER

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2011 Annual Report

U.S. Senator James M. Inhofe





Dear Friend,

One phrase can sum up 2011: “He made it worse.” Throughout the course of the past year, we saw that theme echoed again and again as President Obama and his administration took their toll on our families, our businesses, our economy, and our freedoms. Pursuing his ultra liberal agenda made things worse.

As you will see from this year’s annual report, the right approach to getting America back on track with a growing economy and robust jobs is much different from the approach that President Obama has pursued. On the one hand, Obama’s approach means weighing all of us down with more regulations coming from his bureaucracies, increased deficit spending by the government that only saddles us with even more debt, and a “soak the rich” tax mentality that only discourages job creators from doing what they do best.

On the other hand, as this year’s report outlines, my approach is to fight overregulation and excessive government spending that leads to more debt, lower taxes so that Americans can decide what to do with their money—not the government, and expand the market of our goods and services through trade. These are the roots that will grow a strong economy together.

In addition to these important ways we can turn this great nation back around, you will find areas where I am working for Oklahoma.

This year’s report outlines my many efforts related to our troops and national security. The most important function of our federal government is providing a strong national defense. Unfortunately, while President Obama has been running up our debt through deficit spending on his liberal social programs, he has also gutted our military.

Our men and women in uniform that defend our freedoms deserve nothing but the best, and I will continue to fight against the administration’s efforts to cut their funding, eliminate important programs, and pay for Obama’s pet agenda items on their backs.

As I continue to fight for Oklahoma values in Washington, I hope you find this record of my activities during 2011 helpful and informative.

Sincerely,

Jim Inhofe

“Senator Inhofe is one of the greatest representatives we have on Capitol Hill. He truly represents Oklahoma values and I appreciate his consistency.”
- Emoly West, Miss Oklahoma and runner-up of the 2011 Miss America Pageant



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Ranking Member, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

Senior Member, Senate Armed Services Committee

Ranking Member, Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs

Co-chair, Senate Army Caucus

At-Large Member, U.S. Air Force Academy's Board of Visitors

Co-chair, Senate Taiwan Caucus

Founding Member, Border Security and Enforcement First Caucus

Member, Rural Health Caucus

Member, Enforcement First Immigration Caucus

Member, Rural Education Caucus

Member, Natural Gas Caucus

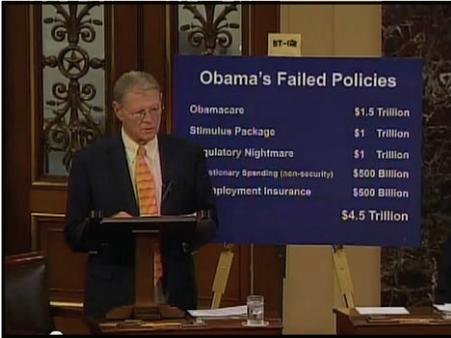
Member, Senate General Aviation Caucus

Co-chair, Congressional Coalition on Adoption



FEWER REGULATIONS

Overreaching government regulations are costing jobs and killing our economy. They are a heavy burden on our nation and its citizens – in some cases worse than our nation’s increasingly out-of-control debt.



Senator Inhofe speaks on the Senate floor about President Obama’s over-regulations.

In 2011, as in past several years, Senator Inhofe devoted much of his time to fighting overregulation and the biggest perpetrator of those regulations: President Obama and his administration.

During the President’s first 26 months in office, his Administration imposed 75 new major regulations costing over \$48 billion in taxpayer dollars. By the government's own estimation, the annual cost of regulations in America is \$1.75 trillion. Recent analysis by George Mason University found that the Obama administration averages 84 economically significant regulations each year. Presidents Bush and Clinton averaged 62 and 56 respectively. Currently there are 149 major new rules in the administration’s pipeline.

When President Obama doesn’t get his way through the Congressional legislative process, he does what he wants through executive branch regulations. This includes controversial measures such as Global Warming regulations that carry hefty price tags and unnecessary red tape.

As you will see from this section, Senator Inhofe has been successful in delaying regulations like the Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Rule, Boiler MACT, and the Lead-Based Paint Rule. He has also been successful in defeating the new Ozone Standard that would have cost 7 million jobs and the Farm Dust Rule that would have negatively impacted farmers across Oklahoma. Even with these successes, there are still dozens of regulations that need to be defeated.

Excessive government overregulation has especially affected small business owners. In a recent Gallup poll, 22 percent of small business owners, the strongest engine for job creation in our country, stated the most important problem they currently face is complying with government regulations. Similarly, a Harris poll found that 43 percent of small businesses view Obama’s regulations as the greatest threat to their business while 35 percent say regulations are causing the most uncertainty. It is no wonder that this burden has caused 1 in 3 small business owners to worry about going out of business this year – a killer for job creation.

Of course with his re-election on the line, the President’s administration has trotted out their political defense for their over-regulating ways. But the facts don’t lie. Since Obama took office, we have 1.1 million fewer jobs with a 9 percent increase in unemployment.

For a strong economy with job growth, Senator Inhofe believes we need fewer regulations and bureaucratic red tape to provide greater freedom and choices for the American people. The following chronicles Senator Inhofe’s efforts to push Obama administration regulations out of the way so that our economy can succeed.

“One thing you can say about U.S. Sen. Jim Inhofe: He doesn’t back down...”
– *Tulsa World* Editorial February 26, 2011



FEWER REGULATIONS

ADOPTION

Having an adopted granddaughter from Ethiopia, Senator Inhofe continues to serve as the Co-Chairman of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption. Having worked to help pass the HELP Haiti Act in 2010 which expedited the adoption process of Haitian children for American families following the 2010 earthquake, Senator Inhofe has continued to work ensuring that the program is administered as Congress intended.

AGRICULTURE

In 2010, USDA issued a new proposed rule for the Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), which oversees the regulation of the livestock industry, as enumerated by the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921. President Obama's USDA issued a rule that went far beyond the requirements established in the Farm Bill; consequently, Senator Inhofe has been fighting against this regulatory overreach. One of the biggest problems with USDA's proposed rule is that it would allow GIPSA and the USDA to punish livestock producers and buyers from engaging in practices that it considers unfair and unjust, even when there is no proof that their practices are actually harming competition in the industry.

"U.S. Sen. Jim Inhofe , R-Okla., has been a close ally throughout the 18-month battle to block or blunt the regulation, known as the GIPSA rule. Most recently, he took to the Senate floor during debate over the agriculture spending bill to highlight the numerous problems with the regulation. Those range from its high cost to its heavy-handed provisions dictating how farmers and ranchers can sell their animals and at what price. Inhofe deserves the heartfelt thanks of the Oklahoma livestock community for his help in this important fight."
- Bill Barnes, President of the Oklahoma Pork Producers Council, & Mike Frey, President of the Oklahoma Cattle-men's Association, November 18, 2011

The rule also would have banned packer-to-packer sales of livestock, which would make it more difficult for many livestock producers to bring their products to market. USDA was not willing to release the Economic Impact Analysis that it did on the rule. Several private entities performed their own assessments, and one estimated that the rule would reduce U.S. GDP by \$14 billion and result in the loss of over 100,000 jobs. Beginning in July, 2010, Senator Inhofe joined other Senators to shed more light on the GIPSA rule allowing the agriculture community more time to comment on USDA's proposed regulations. Senator Inhofe's worked with a coalition of lawmakers blocking funding for the GIPSA Rule in the FY2012 USDA appropriations securing a major victory for Oklahoma's livestock producers.

"I personally oversee ranching operations in both Washington and Osage counties. Prescribed burning is absolutely critical to the effective management of our land. Without it, the health of both our cattle and pasture would suffer. This is a clear example where landowners like me have every reason and incentive to maintain the environmental quality of the land. The economics of my business depend on it, and because of this, we do not need the EPA to regulate when, where, and whether we manage prescribed burns in a given year. We will do it responsibly without their help. I applaud Senator Inhofe for his work to keep the EPA from trying to regulate my business unnecessarily."
- John B. Kane, Kane Cattle Company.

Senator Inhofe introduced with Senator Jerry Moran (R-Kan.), S. 989, the Flint Hills Preservation Act which amends the Clean Air Act to exclude data that exceeds or is in violation of a national ambient air quality air quality standard caused by a prescribed fire in the Flint Hills Region.

Aggressive oversight efforts from Senator Inhofe forced EPA to abandon its plans to tighten regulation of farm dust as part of the NAAQS five year review cycle. In addition, legislation has been introduced in both the House and Senate that would prohibit EPA from regulating farm dust in the future.



FEWER REGULATIONS

AGRICULTURE (continued)

In June, Senator Inhofe led a bi-partisan effort with Senator Kent Conrad (D-ND) and 31 other senators requesting the EPA to extend the implementation timeline for the amended SPCC rule for farmers, and work to ensure that the rule is not overly burdensome or confusing. In November, the EPA announced that it would extend the compliance date to May 10, 2013.

In an effort to prevent oil spills, EPA requires that certain facilities develop and implement oil spill prevention, control, and countermeasures. It's common practice for farms and ranches to have fuel storage tanks and containers. The SPCC program calls for farmers and other facilities to have an oil spill prevention plan to avoid spills and effective secondary containment, such as a double-walled tank, a dike or a remote impoundment that must be able to hold the full capacity of the container plus possible rainfall. The rule also requires secondary containment for the refueling of tanks. Unfortunately, many of the provisions of this rule go far beyond the common-sense approach when crafting government regulations. Very few of the rule's provisions will do much more than increase the operating costs of Oklahoma's farmers and ranchers; the cost-benefit of lowering the chances of an oil spill are negligible. EPA's SPCC is just another example of rules which would have burdened farmers across America with unnecessary regulations.

In September 2011, the Department of Labor proposed a new rule governing the regulations of child labor on agriculture operations. The rule was expansive and a severe overreach – Congress has not instructed a rewrite of the regulations since they were first put into effect. Despite this, the Administration proposed a new rule that could potentially prevent many adolescent children from doing the work critical to running a farm operation of their family farms. Senator Inhofe began his opposition to this rule in October 25, 2011, working with 31 Senators requesting additional time to comment on the regulation. The rule is opposed by the American Farm Bureau, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, the National Pork Producers, the National Future Farmers of America organization, the American Horse Council, the National Milk Producers, and the National Association of Agricultural Educators.



Senator Inhofe with agriculture students from Oklahoma State University.

“We appreciate and support Senator's Inhofe's efforts to provide additional time to achieve compliance because many farmers are having difficulty engaging appropriate engineering services.”

-Danny Robbins, Chairman of the Oklahoma Cotton Council

“The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) would like to thank Senators Inhofe and Conrad for their leadership on the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) rule as it affects farmers and ranchers. In addition, the farming community in many instances lacks access to an adequate number of Professional Engineers (PEs) to do the engineering work required. Without access to PEs, it is impossible for farmers to become SPCC compliant. NCBA would like to thank them for all their efforts to provide relief from the looming compliance deadline for the SPCC rule for farmers and ranchers across the country.”

- Bill Donald, President of National Cattlemen's Beef Association

“America's farmers and ranchers need more time and assistance in complying with SPCC regulations and we appreciate Senator Inhofe's effort to extend the deadline. Farmers in Oklahoma and elsewhere have struggled to find registered professional engineers to develop the necessary spill prevention plans required under SPCC rules. Senator Inhofe's request for an extension of the compliance deadline would greatly benefit our farmers and ranchers.”

- Bob Stallman, President of American Farm Bureau



FEWER REGULATIONS

AVIATION

Senator Inhofe introduced S. Amdt 7 to S. 233, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act, in an effort to ensure that supplemental air carriers are treated fairly under the FAA’s proposed new rules affecting flight crew member duty and rest requirements. The amendment does not prevent the FAA from promulgating new safety regulations for supplemental carriers, but it does require the FAA to consider this industry separate from scheduled airlines and not adopt a “one size fits all” approach. Currently, supplemental carriers fly 95 percent of all military passengers and 40 percent of military cargo. New regulations will negatively impact mission capability and increase costs for both the carriers and the Department of Defense (DOD). Thanks to Senator Inhofe’s efforts, the National Defense Authorization Act of FY 12 requires a report by the DOD specifically from the Commander of U.S. Transportation Command on the effect of the proposed FAA rule changes on the DOD and military missions.

“We want to offer our sincere thanks for Senator Inhofe’s tireless work on behalf of all supplemental carriers during the deliberations surrounding the FAA Reauthorization bill. His advocacy to insure this segment of the industry receives a fair hearing and full consideration of the FAA was reasoned and well conducted.”

- A. Oakley Brooks, President of the National Air Carrier Association

“This will enable hundreds of volunteer pilot to continue to serve the American public and help volunteer pilot organizations recruit more pilots to assist in this important public service task.”

- Steve Craven, Chairman of Angel Flight Mid-Atlantic

Senator Inhofe sought to reign in over-regulation with two amendments to S. 223, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act, with one of his amendments eventually becoming public law. Inhofe’s S. Amdt. 50, Volunteer Pilot Organization Protection Amendment sought to provide liability protection for non-profit, charitable volunteer pilots that provide free transportation to people in need of specialized medical treatment in distant lands due to family, community or national crises. Senator Inhofe has worked with House and

Senate colleagues since 2003 to provide liability protections for the pilot and the organization which organize the pilots for missions. Volunteers provide emergency medical service to communities all across the country. While Inhofe’s amendment passed the Senate by a voice vote on February 17, 2011, it was not ultimately included in the measure that became law.

“On behalf of our 140,000 members I want to thank Senator Inhofe for helping to preserve model aviation. Aeromodeling is an exceptional family recreational and educational activity that has traditionally been a stepping stone for our children to careers in aviation and aerospace. With the Senator’s help we hope model aviation will continue to help provide that impetus for future generations of engineers, pilots, and astronauts.”

- Dave Mathewson, President of Academy of Model Aeronautics

LEGISLATION PASSED

Inhofe’s other amendment to the FAA Reauthorization bill, S. Amdt. 86 (The Model Airplanes Regulation Amendment) denies the FAA the ability to regulate model airplanes.. It passed the Senate by a voice vote on February 17, 2011. The FAA Reauthorization Conference Report included Section 366 which establishes a special rule prohibiting FAA from regulating recreational model aeronautics weighing less than 55 pounds. The measure ultimately became Public Law No: 112-95 on February 14, 2012.



FEWER REGULATIONS

AVIATION (continued)

Senator Inhofe’s major effort to reign in over-regulation in the aviation industry is S.1335, the Pilots’ Bill of Rights. The bill’s purpose is to correct some of the most prominent problems faced by the General Aviation (GA) community when dealing with the FAA.

The Pilot’s Bill of Rights has the support of several private pilots groups such as the powerful Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association with about 400,000 members, and the Experimental Aircraft Association with about 170,000 members. Inhofe introduced the measure on July 6, 2011 with 33 bi-partisan cosponsors. Currently, the measure has 61 cosponsors.

The measure requires that, in an FAA enforcement action against a pilot, the FAA grant the pilot all relevant evidence, such as air traffic communication tapes, flight data, investigative reports, flight service station communications, and other relevant air traffic data 30 days before the FAA can proceed in an enforcement action against the pilot. This is currently not done and often leaves the pilot grossly uninformed of his alleged violation and recourse.

“I’m grateful [for the Pilot’s Bill of Rights],” Ford said. “It seems [like] a real justice issue that the behavior of the FAA should match the standard that we face everywhere else for justice. It’s the one area of our lives where it’s not. You are guilty until you prove yourself innocent, and that must not be the case. So, I support fully that. So, thank you. God speed.”

- Harrison Ford, Actor & Pilot



Senator Inhofe is a pilot with over 10,000 flight hours.

The bill makes the appeals process fair by giving a pilot appealing an FAA decision the ability to appeal directly in federal district court at the pilot’s discretion. Under the current appeals system, the NTSB too often simply rubber stamps a decision of the FAA, making the appeals process meaningless.

The bill requires that the FAA undertake a Notice to Air Men (NOTAM) Improvement Program, requiring simplification and archival of NOTAMs in a central location, and it requires a review of the medical certification forms and procedures which have long been known to present a multitude of problems for pilots seeking an airman certificate.

LEGISLATION PASSED

Senator Inhofe worked with Senators Rockefeller and Hutchison and Congressmen Mica and Rahall to protect the privacy rights of pilots. The FAA had essentially sought to do away with the Block Aircraft Registration Request (BARR) Program. The BARR Program is the exclusive means by which aircraft owners and operators can prevent unknown persons anywhere in the world from monitoring, on a real-time basis, the location of general aviation aircraft and the personal movements of individuals.

The BARR Program protects proprietary business information and alleviates security concerns. Inhofe’s efforts to protect the BARR Program was included in HR 2112, which included Transportation Appropriations for FY 2012. Section 119A of the bill prevents any funds to be used to “implement or to continue to implement any limitation on the ability of any owner or operator of a private aircraft to obtain, upon a request to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, a blocking of that owner’s or operator’s aircraft registration number from any display of the Federal Aviation Administration’s Aircraft Situational Display to Industry data that is made available to the public, except data made available to a Government agency, for the noncommercial flights of that owner or operator.” The language was included in legislation that became Public Law No: 112-55 on November 18, 2011.



FEWER REGULATIONS

BANKING

In June 2010, Congress enacted sweeping financial regulations in the wake of the 2008 Financial Crisis. Senator Inhofe opposed those Dodd-Frank Act regulations, believing they will only encourage more Wall Street bailouts while enacting new burdens on Main Street. That is why he supports the repeal of those regulations and co-sponsored the Dodd-Frank Repeal Act of 2011 (S. 746).

One of the main problems in the Dodd-Frank Act was the creation of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Senator Inhofe opposed the creation of this Bureau because it is duplicative of many other federal agencies charged with protecting consumers. The Bureau also has many problems associated with its structure. If it is going to exist, then it needs to have structural reforms in place so that it can be held accountable by Congress. The legislation co-sponsored by Senator Inhofe to do just that is the Responsible Consumer Financial Protection Regulations Act of 2011 (S. 737).

EDUCATION

Senator Inhofe believes that education decisions are best left to the local level rather than a one-size-fits-all approach from the federal level. The local level gives parents the ability to have greater input into their child's education. This approach led Senator Inhofe to co-sponsor two bills: the A PLUS Act (S. 827), and a bill giving states authority to define a credit hour (S. 1297). The A PLUS Act gives greater flexibility to states by allowing them to consolidate federal education programs and funding to better meet their specific needs in exchange for greater transparency about academic results. The other legislation, S. 1297 repeals the new federal credit hour rule that sets a federal definition of a credit hour and the state authorization regulation. In October 2010, the U.S. Department of Education released a package of "program integrity" regulations. Two of these regulations-- the credit hour and state authorization regulations -- inject the federal government into issues that are traditionally handled by states and independent accrediting bodies, and will unnecessarily restrict colleges and universities and result in fewer choices for students. Further, these regulations will impose additional burdens on institutions of higher education, which could lead to higher costs being passed down to the students.

ENERGY

Senator Inhofe joined a group of 40 Republican Senators to introduce legislation that requires the Secretary of State to act expeditiously on a permit for the Keystone XL pipeline. The Keystone XL pipeline is estimated to create 14,000 jobs in the state of Oklahoma alone. Along with these new jobs, the pipeline would greatly enhance Cushing, Oklahoma's ability to distribute crude oil supplies and help improve both the inbound and outbound flow of crude oil. This language was eventually adopted as part of the payroll tax cut extension which had strong bipartisan support.

Due to the overwhelming concern about the ethanol mandate in Oklahoma and across the nation, Senator Inhofe introduced the Fuel Feedstock Freedom Act (S. 1085) - a bill that gives individual states the option not to participate in the corn ethanol portion of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) and continue selling 100% gasoline. It also expands the definition of the cellulosic biofuel carve-out to include algae and any non-ethanol renewable fuel derived from renewable biomass. This new feedstock-neutral definition will encourage the use of renewable feedstocks such as algae, while promoting the production of drop-in fuels, which are both engine friendly and can be readily blended and transported in the nation's existing distribution infrastructure.

"Allowing states to opt out of the RFS and expanding eligibility for the cellulosic ethanol carve out applies some much needed common sense to renewable energy policy. It's time to take the training wheels off of the corn-based ethanol industry and we urge all members of Congress to support this bill."
- Bill Donald, National Cattlemen's Beef Association President



FEWER REGULATIONS

ENERGY (continued)

Senator Inhofe introduced Comprehensive Assessment of Regulations on the Economy Act (S. 609). This bill would force the Obama Administration EPA to perform a comprehensive economic analysis on the regulations the Administration is seeking to force on American job creators and the American economy.

Through his leadership role on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, Senator Inhofe prevented Rebecca Wodder, a rabid anti-fossil fuel activist, from being confirmed as the Department of the Interior’s Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks. As Assistant Secretary, Wodder would have been responsible for overseeing the Fish and Wildlife Service, which implements the Endangered Species Act. Ms. Wodder’s disdain for natural gas in particular was evident from her work as the CEO of the far-left environmental organization, American Rivers. Her views are obviously based on the many statements she made in opposition to the practice of hydraulic fracturing, a practice critical to natural gas development.



Obama nominee, Rebecca Wodder, refuses to retract statement on hydraulic fracturing.

Senator Inhofe also joined fellow members of Congress in filing an Amicus Brief with the U.S. in the case of *American Electric Power Company v. State of Connecticut*. Senator Inhofe led congressional energy and environmental policymakers in filing an amicus brief which argues that it is the sole prerogative and responsibility of the legislative and executive branches – not the judiciary – to address the environmental and economic issues of federal climate change policy.

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

In August and September 2011, Senator Inhofe brought Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Director Dan Ashe to Oklahoma for a series of listening sessions on FWS’s plan to list the Lesser Prairie Chicken as Endangered or Threatened under the Endangered Species Act. These meetings highlighted to the top official at the Fish & Wildlife Service what Oklahomans have known for a long time: listing the Lesser Prairie-Chicken would have a devastating impact on Oklahoma’s economy, significantly harming agriculture, the construction of highway infrastructure, and many energy development projects, including a number of wind farms. Senator Inhofe asked Director Ashe to allow voluntary efforts to increase prairie chicken populations, already underway in Oklahoma, to produce positive results before going through with a listing that could be so detrimental to the state’s well-being. Senator Inhofe also introduced S. Amdt. 429 to prohibit the listing of the Lesser Prairie Chicken on the Endangered Species list. Additionally, Senator Cornyn (R-TX) and Senator Inhofe were successful in securing a 6-month delay in the proposed listing of the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard as Endangered or Threatened under ESA. The listing of the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard with a limited and unconvincing record supporting its federal protection would severely constrain the ability of a variety of job creating entities including Oklahoma oil and natural gas companies to operate in Texas & New Mexico. Senator Inhofe said FWS should make similar decisions on other controversial proposed listings with significant voluntary public-private preservation efforts such as the Lesser Prairie Chicken.



Senator Inhofe holds a meeting with FWS Director Dan Ashe in his office to discuss the Lesser Prairie Chicken.



FEWER REGULATIONS

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS (continued)

Last Congress, Senator Inhofe, along with 25 of his colleagues, introduced S.3296, a bill to delay the implementation of EPA’s Lead Renovation and Repair Rule, and associated fines, in each state until accredited certified renovator classes could be held in the state for at least one year to train contractors for compliance with the rule. Ultimately, the legislation passed the Senate by a vote of 60-37 becoming part of Public Law 111-212. While Senator Inhofe appreciates the intent behind the EPA’s Lead RRP rule – protecting families from the harmful health effects of lead – he found EPA’s implementation of the rule troublesome. Senator Inhofe continued that fight into this Congress when EPA tried to impose even more costly regulations over and above the Lead Renovation and Repair Rule. The EPA reversed its overly burdensome rulemaking in July 2011 stating, “After carefully weighing all available science and considering the public comments, EPA has concluded that the existing lead-safe work practices and clean up requirements ... will protect people from lead dust hazards. Therefore, it is not necessary to impose new lead-dust testing or clearance requirements.”

Senator Inhofe led the oversight efforts that forced EPA to abandon its plans to tighten the ozone standard. The ozone standard was projected to be the most expensive regulation in American history, costing up to \$90 billion annually. The outlook was bleak for jobs: one study found that the rule would have caused 177,000 job losses in Oklahoma alone. It would also have put hundreds of counties, including 15 in Oklahoma, into the category of non-attainment, which is the equivalent of posting a “closed for business” sign on communities. Fortunately, due to the oversight efforts of Senator Inhofe and others, President Obama asked EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson to withdraw the standard in September 2011.

Senator Inhofe initiated an EPA Inspector General investigation which found that EPA cut corners and short-circuited its peer review process for its endangerment finding – the foundation of its plan to regulate greenhouse gases. This report confirms that the endangerment finding was rushed, biased, and flawed. It calls the scientific integrity of EPA’s decision-making process into question and undermines the credibility of EPA’s decision to regulate greenhouse gases.

Senator Inhofe has been fighting against EPA’s intention to impose a federal plan for regional haze on Oklahoma instead of working with Oklahomans on a reasonable state plan. While Oklahoma’s state plan is effective and affordable, EPA’s plan will cost around \$2 billion and will do nothing to address air quality and public health. At Senator Inhofe’s request, EPA traveled to Oklahoma to hear directly from the Oklahomans who would be impacted by EPA’s agenda.

Regulations

James M. Inhofe
U.S. SENATOR - OKLAHOMA

- Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards 7 million job losses by 2020. 177,000 of those in Okla. 650 counties in non-attainment—including 15 in Oklahoma. **DEFEATED**
- Boiler MACT – \$63 Billion in lost GDP. **DELAYED**
- Farm Dust Rule - EPA regulating dust (PM10) will decimate Oklahoma Agriculture. **DEFEATED**
- Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Rule - Would require farmers to undertake costly engineering services and infrastructure improvements to assure compliance with the regulation. **DELAYED**
- Lead-based Paint Rule – While the intent of the rule is good, implementation of the rule was problematic. **DELAYED**

“I applaud the efforts of U.S. Sen. Jim Inhofe, Gov. Mary Fallin, and the Oklahoma Corporation Commission as well as many other leaders, who are also working to combat this overreaching intrusion.”
– Scott Pruitt, Attorney General of Oklahoma



FEWER REGULATIONS

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS (continued)

As a result of Senator Inhofe's 2010 request for an EPA Inspector General (IG) report, the agency was shown to be slow-walking the review process for Appalachian Surface Mine permits. The IG's 2011 report reveals that of the 185 permits the EPA IG report indentified, only 56 have been approved. That is less than 1/3 of the total permits. Almost half of the 185 permits have taken at least 731 days to evaluate. By EPA's own average it should take 144 days to process these permits. It was just another example of the Obama administration's effort to do away with fossil fuels.

In 2011, Senator Inhofe released a report, *Clouded Waters: A Senate Report Exposing the High Cost of EPA's Water Regulations and Their Impacts on State and Local Budgets*, which examines the effects on state and local governments of several federal water regulations that the Obama EPA is, or will shortly be, implementing. Those regulations include: new water quality criteria in Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and numeric nutrient criteria for geographic locations, new stormwater rules, and the new Pesticide General Permit (PGP). These rules carry with them significant unfunded mandates that will cost state and local governments tens, if not hundreds, of billions of dollars.

As a staunch defender of hydraulic fracturing, a practice of recovering gas from tight rock formations that began in Duncan, Oklahoma, Senator Inhofe has criticized EPA's investigation at Pavillion, Wyoming. That investigation attempts to link fracking to ground water contamination. Senator Inhofe highlights that the EPA's investigation is clearly slanted toward this conclusion as serious questions have been raised about the quality of the study and EPA's conclusion.

When the EPA announced its intention to change guidance that would substantially increase their jurisdiction over land in the U.S., Senator Inhofe was a leader in writing a letter with 40 Senate colleagues to Lisa Jackson to voice strong opposition to EPA's plan. Senator Inhofe also joined in a bicameral letter opposing EPA's attempts to change their harmful guidance to a rule.

Senator Inhofe and Senator Vitter wrote multiple oversight letters to EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson and EPA's research chief Paul Anastas requesting that the agency suspend all Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) chemical assessments "where serious concerns have been raised" as well as address the concerns raised by the NAS. The Senators also joined Rep. Darrel Issa (R-Calif.) to send an oversight letter to Obama Science Advisor John Holdren demanding answers from the White House on the Obama administration's methods of achieving sound science in determining major federal actions. The letter highlighted examples of potential scientific misconduct with regards to major scientific decision that have significant implications on our struggling economy including the Yucca Mountain shutdown and the deepwater drilling moratorium in the Gulf of Mexico.

Senator Inhofe led aggressive oversight efforts against the Obama administration's harmful Boiler MACT rule. As a result, an administrative stay and reconsideration of the final rule was put in place. The stay was recently overturned in court, pressuring Congress to act. There is strong bipartisan support in both chambers to pass legislation addressing the rule.



FEWER REGULATIONS

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS (continued)

Senator Inhofe introduced the Supporting Home Owner Rights Enforcement Act (S. 1988) to keep the Federal Energy Regulatory Commissions (FERC) from bulldozing homes on Grand Lake. Introduced with Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO), the measure would amend the Federal Power Act, which governs FERC’s regulation of hydroelectric dams. Currently, the Federal Power Act explicitly charges FERC with giving consideration to energy conservation, the protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife, the protection of recreational opportunities, and the preservation of other aspects of environmental quality when they approve shoreline management plans. FERC has recently threatened to deny Shoreline Management Plans (SMP) for FERC-regulated dams because dam licensees have allowed structures to be built within the project boundaries of the dam. These structures can range from retaining walls to homes. S. 1988 amends the Federal Power Act so that “private landownership” is one of the explicit and material considerations FERC must take into account when approving FERC licenses and Shoreline Management Plans. This would disarm FERC of the power to deny SMPs on the basis of encroaching private structures. It would also prevent FERC from ordering the destruction of encroaching structures simply because they interfere with FERC’s environmental agenda.

HEALTHCARE

President Obama’s signature item, and one of the biggest expansions of federal regulations in his administration, has been the passage of Obamacare. Since its passage in 2010, Senator Inhofe has been focused on working with his colleagues to find ways to repeal President Obama’s foray into socialized medicine in America. It is clear that Obamacare is going to cost American families, individuals, businesses, and the government too much money. Increasing deficit spending, its promises to bring down healthcare costs are a fantasy with no basis in reality.

To repeal Obamacare, Senator Inhofe has cosponsored the Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Law Act (S. 192). This legislation received two separate votes in the Senate as amendments to other pieces of legislation. Unfortunately, each vote fell short of passage.

In addition to his effort to repeal Obamacare in its entirety, Senator Inhofe joined 44 Republican colleagues in filing an *amicus curiae* brief with the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals in support of the Florida lawsuit filed by 26 states and the NFIB, on May 11, 2011. The brief argues that the individual mandate is an unprecedented and unauthorized expansion by Congress of its authority to regulate commerce. If the individual mandate is deemed constitutional, there will be no meaningful limit to what Congress can authorize under the Commerce Clause.

Senator Inhofe cosponsored the Medical Care Access Protection Act (MCAP) (S.197), a comprehensive malpractice bill addressing time limits on filing claims and limits on non-economic damages that reduces the excessive burden the liability system places on health care delivery. The measure was voted on in the Senate as an amendment to H.R. 674, but fell short of passage.

BY THE NUMBERS: Casework

During 2011, Senator Inhofe maintained a robust constituent casework workload, helping Oklahomans who had problems with federal agencies or who needed assistance.

2011 casework by the numbers and issues:

- ⇒ 468 Military and Veterans cases.
- ⇒ 179 SEC, Labor, Grants, OPM, Civil Service, Transportation and Treasury (IRS) cases.
- ⇒ 262 INS, State Department, FCC, FTC, Postal, Justice, Passport, Homeland Security, and Adoption cases.
- ⇒ 221 Social Security, HHS, and Insurance cases.
- ⇒ 51 Education, FEMA, HUD, Small Business, and EEOC cases.



FEWER REGULATIONS

HEALTHCARE (continued)

Beyond trying to repeal all of Obamacare and filing an *amicus curiae* brief against the law, Senator Inhofe also co-sponsored a number of legislative efforts to repeal various portions of Obamacare:

- ⇒ **The American Liberty Restoration Act. (S. 19)** - Repeals Obamacare’s mandate that all Americans purchase health care insurance or pay a fine.
- ⇒ **The State Health Care Choice Act (S. 244)** - Authorizes states to opt out of certain provisions of Obamacare.
- ⇒ **The Save our States Act (S. 281)** - Delays the implementation of Obamacare until there is final resolution in the pending lawsuits against the measure. Senator Inhofe also cosponsored 3 amendments with similar language to S. 281.
- ⇒ **The Patients’ Freedom to Choose Act (S.312)** - Repeals the provision of Obamacare that requires a prescription to use funds from HSAs and FSAs to purchase over-the-counter medicines and the provision that established a new cap on the amount of contributions that can be made to FSAs.
- ⇒ **The Health Care Bureaucrats Elimination Act (S. 668)** - Repeals the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB), a board of 15 unelected bureaucrats that is given authority under Obamacare to make substantial changes to Medicare without accountability or transparency to seniors and their elected officials.
- ⇒ **The Repeal the CLASS Entitlement Act (S. 720)** - Repeals the unsustainable Community Living Assistance Services and Supports Act (CLASS Act) created by Obamacare. On February 15 in testimony before the Senate Finance Committee, HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius admitted that the CLASS Act, as written in Obamacare, is “totally unsustainable” and that the Administration will attempt to implement changes to the program to make it financially solvent before beginning program operations.
- ⇒ **The Protect Life Act (S. 877)** - Amends Obamacare to prohibit federal funds from being used to cover any part of the costs of any health plan that includes coverage of abortion services.
- ⇒ **The WAIVE Act (S.1395)** - Allows an individual to apply for a waiver from one or more of the requirements of Obamacare by submitting an application to the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS).
- ⇒ **The Respect for Rights of Conscience Act (S.1467)** - Permits a health plan to decline coverage of specific items and services that are contrary to the religious beliefs of the sponsor, issuer, or other entity offering the plan or the purchaser or beneficiary (in the case of individual coverage) without penalty. It also declares that such plans are still considered to: (1) be providing the essential health benefits package or preventive health services, (2) be a qualified health plan, and (3) have fulfilled other requirements under Obamacare and that nothing in Obamacare is construed to authorize a health plan to require a provider to provide, participate in, or refer for a specific item or service contrary to the provider's religious beliefs or moral convictions.
- ⇒ **The State Flexibility Act (S.868)** - Repeals the onerous Medicaid Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements created under Obamacare that force states to maintain expanded Medicaid eligibility restrictions and threatens the financial health of many states across America.

LEGISLATION PASSED

Senator Inhofe cosponsored the **Small Business Paperwork Mandate Elimination Act (S.18)**. The measure repeals a burdensome regulation created by Obamacare that requires all businesses to report payments of \$600 or more. The Senate passed similar legislation with H.R. 4 by a 87 to 12 vote. It became P.L. 112-9.



FEWER REGULATIONS

LABOR

Senator Inhofe believes in the rights of Americans to work without being forced to join a union if they choose not to. Further, he believes that employees have the right to vote in their union elections via a secret ballot to avoid intimidation and coercion. In 2011, he joined his colleagues to introduce several measures that address these and other labor issues.

The Secret Ballot Protection Act (S. 217) - Amends the National Labor Relations Act (NRLA) to ensure the right of employees to a secret ballot election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board (NRLB).

The National Right-to-Work Act (S. 504) - Amends the NLRA and the Railway Labor Act to repeal those provisions that permit employers to require employees to join a union as a condition of employment.

The Voluntary Protection Program Act (S. 807) - Permanently authorizes the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP), a cost-saving workplace program that recognizes employers in the private industry and federal agencies that have implemented effective safety and health management systems to maintain low injury and illness rates. Oklahoma currently has 30 VPP sites covering almost 17,000 employees.

The Job Protection Act. (S. 964) - Preserves the federal law's current protection of state right-to-work laws in the NRLA and explicitly clarifies that the NRLB cannot order an employer to relocate jobs from one location to another.

The Employee Rights Act (S. 1507) - Requires all decisions to form unions, stay in unions and go on strike to be made by secret ballot, and prevent unions from spending dues on political activities without the written consent of workers.

The Representation Fairness Restoration Act (S. 1843) - Reverses the NRLB's *Specialty Health Care* decision that authorized micro-bargaining units. Allowing these micro-bargaining units could create several dozen different unions within the same entity.

SECOND AMENDMENT

When the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) was pursuing regulations outside its authority that would require new firearm reporting to the federal government of firearm sales to lawful purchasers, Senator Inhofe and several other colleagues objected and introduced legislation, S. 570, to reverse ATF's proposal. Later in 2011, Senator Inhofe worked with his colleagues to maintain several House-passed firearms provisions.

Senator Inhofe also cosponsored several bills to protect firearm ownership. The Collectible Firearms Protection Act (S.381) would allow the importation of firearms listed as curios or relics into the United States by a licensed importer with certification to the Attorney General that such firearms are lawfully possessed under the laws of the exporting country. The Hunting, Fishing, and Recreational Shooting Protection Act (S.838) would keep the EPA from issuing regulations on any components in pistols, revolvers, firearms, shells, or cartridges, shot, bullets and other projectiles, propellants, and primers, and any sport fishing equipment. The Veterans' Heritage Firearms Act (S.798) would allow veterans who acquired the firearm while stationed overseas before 1968 the ability to legally own that firearm in the U.S. The Veterans 2nd Amendment Protection Act (S.1707) would require judicial authority to deem a veteran mentally defective for the purposes of gun ownership, and not base such a decision solely on the veteran receiving benefits through the Veterans Administration.

“It is an honor to recognize Senator Inhofe for his voting record on issues we feel to be the most significant to the commercial and industrial construction industry. Inhofe has been a strong advocate for the principles of free enterprise, limited government, individual liberty and personal responsibility. We are thankful for all his efforts on behalf of the more than 23,000 merit shop construction contractors that work and live in Oklahoma, and across the nation.”
- Michael J. Uremovich, 2011 Associated Builders and Contractors National Chairman



Senator Inhofe takes aim.



LOWER TAXES

In 2011, Senator Inhofe continued to fight the efforts of President Obama and Congressional Democrats to raise taxes. Tax increases are not the answer to our nation’s fiscal problems, and certainly will not help our struggling economy. Senator Inhofe knows that the deficit problems that face our nation are due to excessive spending, not tax rates that are too low. Washington has a spending problem—not a revenue problem.

Senator Inhofe, a long-time supporter of lower taxes and a more simplified tax code, helped defeat measures that would have increased taxes on individuals, families, and job creators. At the same time, he sought new ways to lower taxes.



Senator Inhofe receives the “Taxpayer Friend Award” from the National Taxpayers Union.

AGRICULTURE

Senator Inhofe introduced the Charitable Agricultural Research Act (S. 1561) with nine other Senators. The measure would provide for the creation of Agriculture Research Organizations (AROs), extending public charity tax status to entities conducting continuous agriculture research and development in collaboration with land-grant universities and agriculture colleges. More and more demands will be placed on the agriculture community to boost production to feed a growing population. To accomplish this, innovation is needed. Innovation requires research and development, and this bill encourages the private sector to provide the resources necessary to accomplish those important efforts.



On the Capitol Lawn, Senator Inhofe speaks to hundreds of FFA students from Oklahoma.

Following a year of severe drought in Oklahoma and Texas, Senator Inhofe joined Senators John Cornyn and Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas to request the USDA reduce or eliminate fees to Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) participants who participate in emergency grazing and haying during severe droughts. USDA Secretary Vilsack responded by allowing grazing for a month after the end of Fiscal Year 2011 (through October 2011), which prevented the fee from being assessed for both fiscal years 2011 and 2012 for areas hardest hit by the drought.

Senator Inhofe also cosponsored S. 700, a bill to provide an accelerated depreciation schedule for farming business machinery and equipment. This bill would benefit farmers by allowing them to write off the cost of their machinery more quickly than presently allowed by the IRS.

AVIATION

Senator Inhofe, a member of the Senate General Aviation Caucus, fought the Obama administration’s effort to raise taxes on General Aviation (GA). Senator Inhofe has consistently worked with aviation colleagues in Congress to fight the Obama Administration’s proposal to impose user fees on general aviation aircraft.



LOWER TAXES

EMERGENCY & DISASTER

Following an active storm season in Oklahoma, Senator Inhofe introduced the Storm Shelter Tax Relief Act (S.1583). The bill would allow a tax deduction of up to \$2,500 for the construction, purchase and installation of a qualified storm shelter.

Senator Inhofe also cosponsored the Southeastern Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2011 (S. 1205) that would provide a targeted tax relief for states in the southeastern portion of the country (including Oklahoma) affected by the Spring 2011 storms. This bill would allow individuals affected by the storms to make early withdrawals from their retirement plans without penalty. Nationwide, individuals would be able to deduct an unlimited amount of charitable donations to non-profit entities helping with disaster relief efforts. Businesses affected by the spring storms would have been able to immediately expense 50 percent of the cost of demolishing or cleaning up damaged property, and small businesses would have been provided a tax credit of 40 percent (up to \$23,400) for employee wages paid while the business was inoperable.

ENERGY

Each year, President Obama’s budget has included tax increases on the oil and natural gas production industry. In fact, in his last budget submission for 2011, he proposed increasing taxes \$43 billion. These taxes would only work against American energy independence, tax energy production, and increase the price of gasoline at the pump. Senator Inhofe has been the leader against new energy taxes. He was the leader in the 2011 fight against S. 940, an oil and gas tax increase bill offered by Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) and strongly supported by President Obama. Senator Inhofe, leading a bipartisan opposition, was successful in defeating the measure all three times it was offered in 2011.

“One issue after issue – from opposing the cap-and-trade national energy tax to fighting the President’s budget-busting health care scheme – Jim Inhofe stood tall for taxpayers. For six straight years, Senator Inhofe has earned National Taxpayers Union’s ‘Taxpayers’ Friend Award’ for providing vital leadership to restore fiscal discipline in Washington.
- Pete Sepp, National Taxpayers Union Executive Vice President

Senator Inhofe introduced the Energy Tax Prevention Act (S.482), gaining cosponsorship from forty-three Senators. This bill prevents EPA from imposing enormous costs on American families for no environmental benefits, and puts Congress, not unelected bureaucrats, in charge of our nation’s climate policy. With President Obama trying to impose global warming regulations that he couldn’t get through legislation, the bill passed with overwhelming bipartisan support in the House on a 255-172 vote. Unfortunately, Senate Democrats were able to block the bill in the Senate when Senator Inhofe and Senator Mitch McConnell, the Republican leader, offered the same measure as an amendment to the Small Business Extension Bill. Although it failed on April 6, 2011 by a 50-50 vote in the Senate, 72 associations and trade groups representing small businesses and US manufacturers supported the Inhofe-McConnell amendment.

The Wall Street Journal editorial page had this to say about McConnell-Inhofe: **“The amendment is one of the best proposals for growth and job creation to make it onto the Senate docket in years. If Mr. Obama is intent on defending the EPA’s regulatory assault, then the least Senate Democrats can do is force him to defend his choices himself.”**

Senator Inhofe introduced the Suspension of Net Income Limitation on Marginally Producing Wells (S. 1007). The bill would have amended the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the taxable income limit on percentage depletion for oil and natural gas produced from marginal properties. It would have also allowed producers to take percentage depletion deduction on a portfolio-wide basis rather than a well-by-well basis.



LOWER TAXES

GOVERNMENT REFORM

LEGISLATION PASSED

Senator Inhofe cosponsored the Withholding Tax Relief Act of 2011 (S. 89) that repeals an onerous regulation that requires the federal government to withhold 3 percent of payments that it makes to nearly all contractors. The purpose of the withholding was to crack down on individuals who do not pay their taxes, but the actual cost of implementing the proposal was far more expensive than the additional revenue it was expected to raise. The measure was added to a broader bill, and passed the Senate by a 95-0 vote. The House passed the same bill by a vote of 422-0, and it became Public Law 112-56.

HEALTHCARE

Senator Inhofe worked to lower taxes so that patients would be provided the best medical treatment for less cost. He cosponsored the Medical Device Access and Innovation Protection Act (S.17) that would have repealed the 2.3 percent excise tax on medical devices that was part of Obamacare.

He also cosponsored the Family and Retirement Health Investment Act of 2011 (S. 1098) that would strengthen and expand Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) and Flexible Spending Arrangements (FSAs) for American workers and retirees. HSAs and FSAs provide individuals with opportunities to put away tax free savings for everyday medical expenses.

LEGISLATION PASSED

Senator Inhofe cosponsored the Small Business Paperwork Elimination Act (S.18) that eliminates the onerous IRS 1099 tax reporting requirements that were included as a revenue increase in Obamacare. According to the National Taxpayer Advocate, over 40 million small businesses would have been seriously impacted by the 1099 tax reporting requirement, forcing all businesses to file forms with the IRS for transactions more than \$600. The bi-partisan bill became Public Law 112-9 on April 14th, 2011.

SMALL BUSINESS

To provide a stable incentive for businesses to invest in operations on Indian reservations and lands across the country, Senator Inhofe introduced the Indian Lands Accelerated Depreciation Permanent Extension (S.1008). The bill would make permanent the current tax provision that allows capital assets on Indian lands to be depreciated on an accelerated schedule. In the past, this temporary measure has been approved by Congress on a yearly basis. However, this legislation would make this measure permanent, allowing much-needed stability to businesses located on Indian lands.

Senator Inhofe also cosponsored a bipartisan bill (S. 687) that would provide an accelerated depreciation schedule for qualified lease improvements. This bill would make permanent the provisions in the tax law encouraging improvements on leased property, qualified restaurant space, and qualified retail space. It would allow businesses to depreciate the cost of those improvements on their taxes over a 15 year period.



LESS GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Senator Inhofe has advocated for a smaller government that spends less of the taxpayers hard-earned dollars during his entire career. He began fighting and advocating for a balanced budget amendment in 1971, during his days in the Oklahoma State Legislature. It is no surprise then, that once again in 2011, Senator Inhofe was a leader on fiscal issues, offering innovative solutions that helped shape the Republican approach to dealing with the spending crisis in Washington.

In addition to advocating for lower taxes, Senator Inhofe knows that a good way to rein in an over-reaching government is to restrict how much money the government is spending. American families and businesses must operate in a fiscally responsible way, tightening the spending belt when necessary to live within their means. Yet, for far too long, this same approach has not applied to the federal government. As a result, our nation now faces a fiscal crisis in which we are drowning in debt.

Since taking office, President Obama's spending and economic record have increased our national debt by 43 percent with a debt that now stands above \$15 trillion. The nation's debt is over \$48,694 *per person*. President Obama's spending during his three years in office has included more than \$1 trillion in deficit spending each year. In those three years, President Obama has spent \$10.6 trillion, increasing total annual spending by over 20%, from \$2.98 trillion in 2008 to \$3.63 trillion in 2011.

America is on an unsustainable spending path that threatens our freedom and our future generations. That is why Senator Inhofe has been a voice in the wilderness advocating real solutions to this crisis.

SPENDING CUTS & BUDGET REFORM

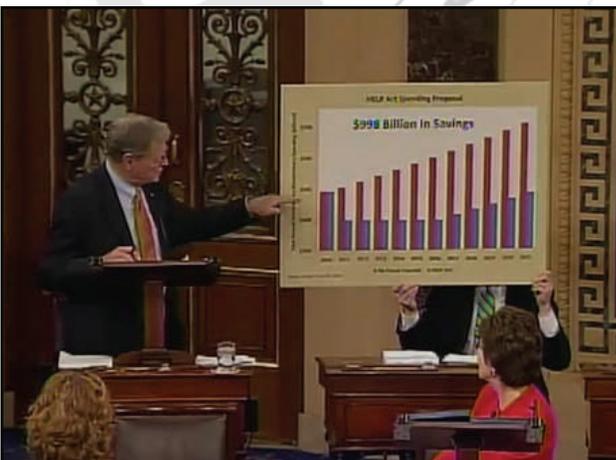
Senator Inhofe re-introduced the Honest Expenditure Limitation Plan (HELP) Act (S.360) and was joined by 19 colleagues on the bill. The measure would add teeth and real savings by cutting non-security discretionary spending

immediately back to pre-Obama levels of 2008 and then hold it there for the next ten years through binding spending caps that could only be overturned by a 67-vote point of order in the Senate. Senator Inhofe's HELP Act shaped the fiscal debate for Republicans, and elements of his bill were ultimately incorporated in S. 365, the Budget Control Act, which was enacted into law by a Senate vote of 74-26. However, the spending cuts were not nearly deep enough to be sufficient to solve the nation's fiscal crisis.

Senator Inhofe and 64 other Senators also wrote President Obama in mid-March encouraging the President to support broad deficit reduction measures. The bi-partisan Senators were seeking leadership from the President on the issue of spending restraint and deficit reduction to send a strong message that this difficult issue could be addressed.

“With his score of 93 percent, Inhofe has demonstrated that he is on the side of economic freedom not just at election time, but every time. The Club for Growth values Members of Congress who stand on principle over political expediency. The people of Oklahoma are lucky to have strong pro-growth representation in Congress.”

- Chris Chocola, President of Club for Growth



Senator Inhofe introduces the HELP Act on the floor of the Senate with a chart showing the savings it would provide taxpayers.



LESS GOVERNMENT SPENDING

SPENDING CUTS & BUDGET REFORM (continued)

Senator Inhofe cosponsored the Cut, Cap, and Balance Act (S. 1340) that would have cut FY2012 spending by \$111 billion, capped annual spending at 19.9 percent of GDP by 2021, and required the passage of a balanced budget amendment. As the debate over the debt limit heated up toward the end of July, Senator Inhofe joined his Republican colleagues in a letter to Majority Leader Reid reiterating the position that Republicans would not support a blank check debt limit increase, which is what Senator Reid had proposed to do. Senator Inhofe's support for a proposed increase in the debt limit was contingent upon spending reforms like those included in this measure. Unfortunately, the vote on the bill in the Senate failed due to Democrat opposition.

Senator Inhofe, a long-time supporter of a Balanced Budget Amendment, also pushed for S.J.RES.10, the Balanced Budget Amendment. It was supported by 47 Republican Senators and would have amended the U.S. Constitution to ensure that the budget of the federal government is balanced each year. It would have required the President to submit a balanced budget to Congress each year limiting outlays to 18 percent of GDP, compared to the current level of nearly 25 percent of GDP. Deficits would have to be approved with a 2/3 supermajorities for specific amounts that are not open ended. Lower approval thresholds would have been required during periods of declared war or serious military conflicts. The Balanced Budget Amendment would have also required a 2/3 supermajorities for any tax increase and a 3/5 majority to increase the statutory debt limit. Once again, the measure failed due to Democrat opposition in the Senate.



Senator Inhofe participates in a press conference about the Balanced Budget Amendment with some of his Senate colleagues.

Senator Inhofe was a cosponsor of the Resolution of Disapproval of the President's request to increase the debt limit by \$900 billion (S. J. Res. 25). If it had been enacted, the provision would have prevented the President from obtaining a debt limit increase in accordance with the procedures established in the Budget Control Act. Senator Inhofe voted against the Budget Control Act, which allowed the President to increase the debt limit in several stages, because it did nothing to solve our long term fiscal instability. Before a debt limit increase is allowed to move forward, Senator Inhofe believes that significant budget reforms need to be enacted.

Senator Inhofe continued his oversight and opposition of federal government bailouts by cosponsoring the No More IMF Bailouts Act (S. 1975). The bill would have rolled back the U.S. commitment to the IMF and limited the ability of U.S. representatives at the IMF to support loans and bailouts to developed nations in Europe. Many European governments have handled their finances poorly – taxing and spending too much. Eventually, these excesses have resulted in countries like Greece, Spain, and Italy having problems financing their government operations. To help avoid the actual cuts and spending restraint necessary, several have turned to the IMF for help restructuring their debt. This bill would have helped prevent U.S. taxpayer funds from being used to bail out European nations. Senate Democrats defeated this measure when it was voted on as an amendment to another piece of legislation.

To address unauthorized earmarks, Senator Inhofe introduced S. Res. 23, a resolution to prohibit unauthorized earmarks. Senators John McCain (R-AZ) and Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX) joined Senator Inhofe on the bill that would create a new rule in the Senate to make it out of order to consider a bill, joint resolution, conference report, or amendment that provides for a program which has not been evaluated and approved by the appropriate Senate authorizing committee. This legislation ensures that every penny of Congressional spending is scrutinized for propriety and necessity. This will cut out wasteful projects which some members received in their districts by abusing their responsibility and authority as Members of Congress.



LESS GOVERNMENT SPENDING

SPENDING CUTS & BUDGET REFORM (continued)

In 2011, as the nation got closer to its statutory debt limit, President Obama made a point to scare the American people. He threatened if the debt limit were not raised, seniors and our fighting servicemen and women would be left out in the cold without their bills paid. Further, the President claimed that a failure to increase the debt limit would result in the U.S. defaulting on its debt – something that had never occurred before. To ensure that this would not occur, Senator Inhofe joined 33 of his colleagues and cosponsored the Ensuring the Full Faith and Credit of the United States and Protecting America's Soldiers and Seniors Act (S. 1420). The bill would have required the President to prioritize payments of the federal government in the event that the debt limit was reached but not increased. Incoming tax revenue would have been prioritized to ensure timely payment of interest on the national debt, Social Security benefits, and military pay.

WELFARE REFORM

Over the next ten years, our nation is projected to spend \$10.3 trillion on welfare programs. With Obamacare expected to cost between \$1.5 trillion and \$2.5 trillion during the same time period, our debt will only continue to grow if we do not quickly reform our entitlement state. That is why Senator Inhofe supported legislative measures that would reform our welfare entitlement programs and repeal Obamacare. Together, that could save well over \$2.4 trillion in ten years. If we really want to cut our deficits and balance our budget – which is something we must do – then we should start by implementing these reforms and start the tough work of responsibly reforming Medicare and Social Security. Both programs are on unsustainable paths as currently structured. With this in mind, Senator Inhofe cosponsored the Welfare Reform Act (S. 1904). The measure aims to reduce the welfare state through various reforms, including transparency on means-tested welfare spending, an aggregate spending cap at pre-stimulus 2007 levels with budget resolution enforcement, reallocation of funds to grants to states that successfully reduce poverty and increase self-sufficiency, limiting the allowable use of food stamps to “essential foods”, work requirements for beneficiaries and a prohibition on welfare programs using federal funds to provide abortions or abortion-related services.

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Senator Inhofe and Senator David Vitter (R-LA) requested a GAO report that exposed millions of taxpayer dollars going to pay attorneys’ fees for environmental litigation against the EPA. It further showed that those groups were using the system to further their radical agendas.

Inhofe-Boxer highway bill, MAP-21, passed the EPW Committee. The bill will rebuild our aging roads and bridges. The measure funds the federal highway program at current levels plus inflation for two fiscal years. Oklahoma will receive an average of \$650 million per year, funding that will support 45,000 jobs in Oklahoma alone.

For safe, affordable drinking water and laws that are fair to small and rural communities, Senator Inhofe again introduced the Small Systems Safe Drinking Water Act (S. 999). The bill would provide guidance specifically to small water systems and require the EPA to include affordability criteria in imposing new standards on small systems. The bill requires EPA to provide technical assistance to small systems, ensuring funds have been made available to a small system before the initiation of enforcement actions. Additionally, Senator Inhofe co-sponsored the Sustainable Water Infrastructure Investment Act (S. 939), a bipartisan bill that helps small water systems comply with Federal drinking water standards.

“There’s no denying Inhofe is as conservative as it gets, but he’s also an avowed supporter of infrastructure who seeks funding for such projects regularly. Thank goodness we’ve got someone with some power and influence in the Capitol willing to fight for these basic needs, which also happen to be proven economic engines.”
– *Tulsa World* Editorial September 2, 2011

“We very much appreciate Sen. Inhofe’s leading role in this significant accomplishment. Not only does this bill provide the necessary funding for transportation it also makes better use of resources by allowing flexibility in where funds are spent.”
– Gary Ridley, Oklahoma Secretary of Transportation

“I applaud Senator Inhofe’s effort to ensure that funding is available to meet the needs of our small communities and rural water districts.”

– Steve Thompson, Executive Director of the Oklahoma DEQ



LESS GOVERNMENT SPENDING

HEALTHCARE

In addition to fighting to repeal Obamacare, Senator Inhofe worked with his colleagues on a number of measures to reduce healthcare spending. He cosponsored the Medicare and Medicaid FAST Act (S. 1251) to establish various measures to curb fraud, waste, and abuse in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. He also cosponsored the Retirement Freedom Act (S. 1317) to allow any individual who is otherwise entitled to benefits under Medicare part A (Hospital Insurance) to opt out of such entitlement without the requirement to opt out of SSA title II (Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance) (OASDI). By allowing seniors to opt out of Part A, their right to exercise freedom in choosing a health plan that best fits their needs is preserved without also jeopardizing their Social Security benefits.

To further protect the unborn, Senator Inhofe supported the Title X Family Planning Act (S. 96) that would prohibit federal family planning funds from being awarded to any grantees who perform abortions or whose sub-grantees perform abortions.

To better serve rural community health needs, Senator Inhofe supported the Craig Thomas Rural Hospital and Provider Equity Act (S. 1680). The bill would reform and improve Medicare reimbursement formulas, extend certain rural health provisions, and create a new loan program to assist rural hospitals in repairing aging facilities.

BY THE NUMBERS: Constituents

Senator Inhofe returns home to Oklahoma on most weekends. He uses these times to speak with and listen to constituents from all across the state. Flying his plane, he is able to quickly travel from one end of the state to the other.

⇒ Number of town visits in 2011: 73

⇒ Number of Student Visits: in 2011 668

LAW ENFORCEMENT

On June 21, Senator Inhofe joined a few of his colleagues in sending the Chairman and Ranking Member of the subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies a letter asking that Congress continue to support the JAG Program. These funds help to alleviate funding shortfalls and it is imperative that local law enforcement has the recourse to address crime and prevention. He believes that law enforcement agencies must have the proper support in order to do their job. Senator Inhofe will continue to work to ensure that the Byrne/JAG program is fully funded and that law enforcement officials receive all the resources they need to strengthen our criminal justice system.

“Thankfully, it’s Members of Congress like Jim Inhofe who share caring concern towards our senior population, the very ones who have sacrificed all these years and who now face uncertain retirements due to the impending bankruptcy of their entitlement programs. Senator Inhofe has also pledged to work hard to halt out of control spending of hard earned tax dollars in order to right our fiscal ship before it sinks from tons of heavy debt. On behalf of 7.1 million seniors that 60 Plus looks to for support, seniors know you’re in our corner. Senator Inhofe, you have earned our respect and our appreciation. 60 Plus thanks you.”

- Jim Martin, Chairman, 60 Plus



TRADE

Senator Inhofe believes that many Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) are vital for our nation’s economic growth. He believes that such agreements should be negotiated from a position of strength to the benefit of the United States. FTAs increase U.S. exports and support the creation of tens of thousands of American jobs. Trade improves competition, and it opens the global marketplace to U.S. companies and products.

In 2006, the U.S. signed an FTA with Columbia, and in 2007, our country signed agreements with Panama and South Korea. Negotiated during the Bush Administration, those three FTAs sat idle, without Congressional action because the Democratically controlled Congress prevented their approval from being secured. When he was running for President, one of President Obama’s campaign pledges was to double U.S. exports within five years – but after he was sworn in, he continued to find problems with the agreements and blocked their consideration.

Senator Inhofe began his fight to secure passage of those three FTAs at the very beginning of the year when he became an original cosponsor of S. Res. 20, a Senate resolution calling for the immediate consideration and passage of the agreements. Finally, after several additional months of inaction, the President submitted the agreements for Congressional approval in early October. Then, on October 12, 2011, Congress passed all three Free Trade Agreements with overwhelming bipartisan majorities.

These agreements are particularly beneficial to Oklahoma because the agriculture sector is one of the key beneficiaries in each of the agreements.

FTA with South Korea—Senator Inhofe voted in favor of the Free Trade Agreement with South Korea, and it passed the Senate by a vote of 83-15. The agreement is expected to add \$11 billion annually to the U.S. economy. Oklahoma is expected to increase trade with Korea significantly, largely because U.S. agriculture exports to South Korea are expected to increase by 70 percent. Oklahoma is expected to make up at least \$50 million of this new trade every year. The agreement eliminates the 40 percent tariff South Korea imposes on U.S. beef imports. This is expected to result in \$2 billion in additional annual beef exports to South Korea. The pork industry will also benefit significantly from the FTA, as it reduces the 25 percent tariff on most pork products.

FTA with Colombia—Senator Inhofe voted in favor of the Free Trade Agreement with Colombia, and it passed the Senate by a vote of 66-33. The agreement is expected to increase U.S. exports to Colombia by \$1.1 billion per year. It is also expected to expand the U.S. GDP by \$2.5 billion per year, which will add thousands of jobs to the economy. As with the agreement with South Korea, the Colombia FTA will provide significant benefits to the U.S. agriculture sector. The agreement immediately eliminates tariffs on high quality beef, cotton, and wheat – each a major product of Oklahoma’s agriculture economy.

FTA with Panama—Senator Inhofe voted in favor of the Free Trade Agreement with Panama, and it passed the Senate by a vote of 77-22. As with the other two agreements, the Panama FTA is expected to disproportionately improve U.S. agriculture exports to Panama, a sector highly protected by the Panamanian government. This FTA will eliminate virtually all agriculture related tariffs over the next several years. As a result, U.S. exports of pork and beef to Panama are expected to increase by 96 percent and 94 percent, respectively. That makes this agreement of particular importance to Oklahoma.



Senator Inhofe meets with Ddee Haynes, the Oklahoma Cattlewomen Beef Ambassador, in his Washington office.



TRADE

OKLAHOMA BEEF

Senator Inhofe took additional steps to open foreign market access to U.S. and Oklahoma beef producers. In August, he cosigned a letter with 38 of his colleagues to USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack and U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk urging them to continue high-level engagement with Japanese and Chinese officials over the issue of their beef import restrictions. Both of these nations represent markets of large potential for all U.S. agriculture products. However, their habits of restricting market access to U.S. beef products is of particular concern. The most damaging of these practices are their non-tariff barriers to entry. U.S. beef is among the safest in the world, but following the isolated discovery of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in 2003, these nations argued that our beef was not safe. As a result, they severely limited the types of U.S. beef eligible for entry into their nations. These actions were extremely damaging to our domestic beef producers, including those in Oklahoma. This is of particular concern because the decisions made by China and Japan to limit their market access were not based on scientific research or information. They simply used the isolated incident as a way to protect their own domestic producers. Because the cattle beef industry is such an important aspect of Oklahoma life, Senator Inhofe will continue pushing for these and other nations to provide open access to their beef markets.

OKLAHOMA POULTRY

Similar to China and Japan, India uses a number of non-tariff barriers to prevent U.S. poultry producers from having access to their domestic marketplace. With over 1 billion people, India's market potential is huge, and our nation needs to be afforded access to it. In fact, the National Chicken Council estimates that U.S. poultry exports to India could exceed \$300 million annually if appropriate access were allowed. India, however, has chosen to unfairly protect its domestic poultry producers by implementing unfair trade policies on American imports. Because of this, Senator Inhofe joined 18 other Senators that urged Ron Kirk, the United States Trade Representative, to raise this important issue during his trip to India. Senator Inhofe will continue working to ensure that the international community recognizes the strong food safety record of the United States. This is important to prevent nations like India from blocking U.S. products from their marketplaces.

OKLAHOMA PORK

Russia has also taken unilateral steps to make its domestic market less accessible to U.S. and Oklahoma pork producers. In 2008, the U.S. entered into a bilateral agreement with Russia that provides U.S. pork producers with an allocation of 100,000 metric tons of global import tariff-rate quota (TRQ) of the 531,900 total metric tons that

Russia negotiated with other trading partners, giving the U.S. about 19 percent of the total. Unfortunately, Russia later unilaterally reduced U.S. access by about 43 percent. Russia has also followed the lead of other countries to limit the access of their home markets to U.S. agriculture products. Russia has done this with U.S. pork by implementing unjustifiable sanitary restrictions on U.S. pork, which is among the safest in the world. Because of these developments, Senator Inhofe joined with 27 other Senators in a letter to Trade Representative Ron Kirk asking him to address these concerns prior to Russia's accession to the World Trade Organization.



Senator Inhofe gives a presentation to members of the Oklahoma Farm Bureau.



ARMED SERVICES & VETERANS

As a senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator Inhofe believes the most important function of government is providing a strong national defense. In order to achieve the protection our nation and its people need, we need a strong military, and Senator Inhofe works to ensure that our men and women in uniform have the resources they need to defend this nation.

Since the start of 2009, Senator Inhofe has fought against the devastating cuts that President Obama has imposed on the Defense Department. That fight intensified in 2011. Opposed to President Obama’s gutting of our military, Senator Inhofe has been a strong proponent of a well-equipped fighting force.

During 2011, he visited troops of Oklahoma’s 45th on a number of occasions including a couple of times in Afghanistan where they were deployed.

For those that served their country in the past, Senator Inhofe believes that Congress must remain committed to improving the quality of care and services to America’s veterans and the families that support them.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (NDAA)

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2011, the yearly measure that sets spending priorities for the Department of Defense, was signed into law on December 31, 2011. It included several important amendments by Senator Inhofe:

National Guard Empowerment and State-National Defense Integration: Over the course of the past several years, the National Guard has been more heavily relied upon for deployments in combat zones. This amendment to the NDAA gives them a greater voice by adding the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to the Joint Chiefs of Staff alongside the four service chiefs. The provision also permanently authorizes the National Guard’s State Partnership Program and restores authorities previously associated with that program. The amendment was similar to the National Guard Empowerment and State-National Defense Integration Act (S.1025) that Senator Inhofe cosponsored.

Civil Reserve Air Fleet (CRAF) Transport of Military Personnel, Equipment, and Supplies: Requires the Commander of U.S. Transportation Command (TRANSCOM) to report on the affect of FAA crew rest regulations for small, mission specific and unscheduled carriers that provide the Defense Department with unique and short notice capabilities.

Global Security Contingency Fund: Provides broader authority to respond to changing circumstances globally with targeted funding, enabling timely joint efforts by the Departments of State and Defense. This authority will build capacity for counterterrorism, border and maritime security, internal defense, and participation in stability or peace support operations.



Senator Inhofe spent New Years 2011 in Afghanistan with troops from Oklahoma’s 45th.

“It was an honor just to meet him. He really cares about Oklahoma’s Guard Soldiers; it means a lot that he came down here.”

– PFC Redmond Brown Okla. 45th IBCT

“I am glad he came here. This is the first time since our mission changed that the Soldiers feel important – this was great for their morale.”

– First Sergeant Mitchell Brickey Okla. 45th IBCT

“My mom [Vickie Beasley] is a huge fan of Senator Inhofe. I told her he was going to visit us, and she got so excited. He was so great he even took a picture with me, so I can send it to my mom.”

– Specialist Natalie Hammons Okla. 45th IBCT



ARMED SERVICES & VETERANS

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (NDAA - continued)

Paladin Integration Management (PIM): Affirms the fact that the PIM effort is now proceeding on plan, with formal Army developmental tests underway. Elgin, Oklahoma has long been identified as the site for PIM modernization. The prior year funds approved by Congress for reprogramming to the PIM program, plus funds requested by the Army for fiscal year 2012, are all required to ensure the cost, performance, and schedule stability of the PIM program. The amendment supports the Army's view that PIM is a critical modernization program, and directs the Secretary of the Army to regularly inform Congress on the program's progress.



Senator Inhofe speaks at the U.S. Army birthday celebration.



On the Senate floor, Senator Inhofe discusses the LRA.

Lord's Resistance Army (LRA): Authorizes \$35 million for the U.S. to support efforts in Uganda and other Central African nations to eliminate the threat posed by Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). Requires Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to develop and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a comprehensive strategy to provide logistic and intelligence support across the Ugandan and the Great Lakes region of Africa for viable multilateral efforts to mitigate and eliminate Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army.

Depot Maintenance: Requires the Defense Department to formulate an industrial strategy to ensure the sustainment of effective depots such as Tinker AFB.

Spent Brass: Makes fired small arms cartridges available for commercial sale with certain restrictions, and requires the Secretary of Defense to issue guidance to ensure compliance with the guidelines managing commercial sale of spent ammunition. This provision is strongly supported by the National Rifle Association and gun rights advocates.

Weather Study: Requires the Secretary of the Air Force to submit a plan for incorporating the latest science and technology into their weather prediction systems. The Air Force will work with the National Weather Center at the University of Oklahoma to improve on weather production for military operations.

“As a national leader in developing new weather technologies, the National Weather Center at the University of Oklahoma stands ready and willing to continue to work with the Air Force and other key federal officials to support this critical effort.”
- Berrien Moore, Weather Center Director

Fire Resistant Fabrics: Requires the Secretary of Defense to furnish Congress with a report on fire-retardant and fire-resistant fibers and materials for the production of military uniforms. It requires the Secretary to identify materials on the market that would exceed the capability of materials currently being worn by those in uniform.

Rotor Aircraft: Authorizes up to \$20 million for the Army to carry out a program to develop and demonstrate advanced rotorcraft technology .

Security Surveillance at Forward Operating Base: Requires the Defense Department to submit a report on alternatives to aerostat moored balloons for base surveillance.

Joint STARS Re-engining Program: Requires the Air Force Audit Agency to submit to Congress the results of a financial audit of the funds previously authorized and appropriated for the Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (JSTARS) aircraft re-engining program.



ARMED SERVICES & VETERANS

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (NDAA - continued)

Military Sports Programs (Paralympics): Notes the success of Military Sports Programs to include paralympic programs at universities, and requires the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to continue robust military paralympics programs and ensure services are not duplicated.

Virtual Colonoscopy: Recommends that the Defense Department pursue ways to maximize the awareness and availability of all colon cancer screening procedures to include Computed Tomographic Colonography (CTC) or virtual colonoscopy.

Protecting our Weapons Suppliers from Foreign Boycotts: An amendment authored by Senator Inhofe and modified in conference that directs the Comptroller General to provide a report on the impact of boycotts of our defense suppliers by overseas banks who are responding to foreign anti-war activists



Senator Inhofe visits with members of Oklahoma's 45th during their pre-deployment training in Mississippi.

McAlester Army Ammunition Plant (MCAAP): Removes restrictions on public-private partnerships at Army industrial facilities and makes the authority permanent. This will facilitate increased work for MCAAP.

Safer Skies for Overseas Air Force Operations: An amendment authored by Senator Inhofe and included in the report requires the Air Force to report on the feasibility of using Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to do flight checks of instruments navigational aids at foreign fields. Such a procedure may enhance safety by expanding the number of fields being checked.

Waiver for Critical Fire-Suppression Chemicals: An amendment offered by Inhofe and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid exempts a specific, critical chemical used in military fire suppression systems from a phase out mandated by the 1990 amendments to the Clean Air Act. No alternatives have emerged in the two decades since the amendment was passed, and this waiver allows for continued protection

“The McAlester Army Ammunitions Plant is the number one employer for the entire southeast region of the state of Oklahoma. We would like to recognize our Senior Senator and his staff for all of their hard work, attention, and tenacity in seeing this through. Because of their help, our military installation continues to provide solid jobs and support the U.S. Military. McAlester is a defense community and our people are incredibly grateful to the Senator and his staff.”

- Shari Cooker, Executive Director of MPower

of U.S. troops.

Iran Sanctions: Allows the president to sanction financial institutions, including the central banks for foreign countries, that continue to do business with the Central Bank of Iran.

Chaplain Freedom of Conscience: The unwise repeal of the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy threatens chaplains' free exercise of their religious beliefs. This amendment formalizes the rights of chaplains to refuse to officiate gay marriages.

Impact Aid: Sustains supplemental funding for schools with military children with an authorization of \$5 million from Defense-wide operations and maintenance funds.

TRICARE Fees: Ties annual increases in TRICARE fees to the cost of living index, not medical inflation.

Military Sports Programs for Wounded Warriors: Permanently authorizes sports programs for our Wounded Warrior athletes.



Senator Inhofe in Afghanistan.



ARMED SERVICES & VETERANS

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (NDAA - continued)

While the following Inhofe amendments were ultimately not included in the 2011 NDAA, Senator Inhofe will continue to work toward enactment of the following initiatives:

Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic

Brain Injury: This amendment would have urged the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) to continue to make improvements in the management, mission and programs of the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury. It noted the findings of a 2011 GAO report focusing on the prevention, diagnosis, mitigation, treatment and rehabilitation of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Storage Facility: This amendment would have authorized certain Army posts to have storage facilities for their historical items for the purpose of conservation and education. It was supported by the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Army but was not included in the final bill.

Elimination of an Unjust Offset: This amendment was passed by the Senate but not included in the final bill. It would have repealed the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation.

Capital Investment for McAlester Army Ammunition Plant (MCAAP): Two key provisions that would have supported MCAAP were not included in the final bill. One provision would have added MCAAP to a list of Army industrial facilities that receives a minimum annual investment from the Army equal to six percent of the plant's workload over the past three years. A second provision would have authorized the Secretary of the Army to designate MCAAP as a "Center of Industrial and Technical Excellence" which would have facilitated additional authorities for public-private partnerships.

"Senator Inhofe's amendment to the NDAA allows McAlester Army Ammunition Plant to offset any costs of energy exploration. By also making those funds available for base modernization, Inhofe is working not just for our nation's military, but helping to ensure the growth and stability of MCAAP and its place here in Southeastern Oklahoma for years to come."
- Larry Nortunen, Secretary and Treasurer of the McAlester Defense Support Association

DOD Energy Security: This amendment would have exempted the Defense Department from section 526 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 which prevents the Department from developing alternative energy sources like tar sands and continue our dependence on foreign oil.

GITMO

Senator Inhofe was the leader of a Congressional Delegation visit to the detention facility in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (GITMO) in 2011. The purpose of the trip was to get updated on the status of the facility and those detained there since President Obama had campaigned on closing the facility. Responding to President Obama's refusal to house new terrorist prisoners at GITMO, Senator Inhofe introduced the Guantanamo Bay Detention Facility Detention Act (S.1046). This legislation would require each high-value enemy combatant captured or otherwise taken into long-term custody or detention by the United States to, while under such U.S. detention, be detained at GITMO.



In his Washington office, Senator Inhofe meets with Gen. Ray Odierno, Chief of Staff of the Army.



Senator Inhofe is given a presentation by the National Defense University



ARMED SERVICES & VETERANS

CARING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED

In order to expand and improve housing services and related outreach to veterans, Senator Inhofe cosponsored the Helping Our Homeless Veterans Act (S. 411). The measure would authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to enter into agreements with state or local government agencies, tribal organizations, and nonprofit organizations to collaborate in providing these services to our veterans.



Senator Inhofe participated in the Arlington Cemetery service.

“The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) is very appreciative of the consistent support of veterans by Senator Inhofe.”
- Clayton Jones, National Commander of MOPH

After many veteran funerals were picketed by protesters, Senator Inhofe saw the need to protect the dignity of the fallen while respecting their mourning families. For this reason, he cosponsored the Sanctity of Eternal Rest for Veterans Act (S. 815). It would prohibit the disruptions of funerals of members or former members of the Armed Forces two hours before and after a military funeral. Includes within such unlawful conduct any disturbance or disruption occurring within 500 feet of the residence of a surviving member of a deceased's immediate family.



Senator Inhofe receives the Military Order of the Purple Heart's Award for Inspirational Leadership.

Senator Inhofe also cosponsored the Veterans 2nd Amendment Protection Act (S.1707) which would require judicial authority to deem a veteran mentally defective for the purposes of gun ownership, and not base such a decision solely on the veteran receiving benefits through the Veterans Administration.

Senator Inhofe introduced legislation (S.260) that assists our nation's veterans and their spouses by ending the practice of offsetting survivor benefits paid by the Defense Department. Under current law, widows of veterans with the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) have had their insurance benefits reduced by as much as \$1,200 a month. The spouses and dependents who survive our warriors have earned every penny and should receive the full value of SBP and DIC without any offset. This bill will ensure that the families of veterans will receive the help they need. Senator Inhofe believes that to do anything less is unacceptable when military families continue to make incredible sacrifices on behalf of our nation's freedom.



Senator Inhofe greets Oklahoma World War II Veterans at the National WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C. The veterans arrived as part of the Oklahoma Honor Flight Program.

Finally, Senator Inhofe cosponsored the Servicemember Student Loan Interest Relief Act (S. 1139) which would allow members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty in hostile areas to benefit from the provision barring the accrual of interest on their student loans under the Federal Direct Loan program.

LEGISLATION PASSED
Honoring our veterans, Senator Inhofe helped introduce both S. Con. Res. 13 and S. Res. 55. Both measured passed the Senate. S. Con. Res. 13 honors the service and sacrifice of members of the United States Armed Forces who are serving in, or have served in, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation New Dawn. S. Res. 55 supports the designation of a "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day."



FOREIGN AFFAIRS

ASIA

As the Ranking Member on the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asian & Pacific Affairs as well as a senior Member of the Armed Services Committee, Senator Inhofe has been working to ensure Communist China’s growing influence is kept in check and that the U.S. remains committed to Taiwan’s defense under the Taiwan Relations Act. As co-chairman of the Taiwan Caucus for four years, Senator Inhofe remains a strong supporter of the Taiwan’s ability to exist independently and free of Communist Chinese control.

LEGISLATION PASSED

Reacting to China’s use of force in the South China Sea, Senator Inhofe helped introduce S. Res. 217. This resolution, passing the Senate unanimously, put the Senate on record as deploring such action by China. The resolution specifically called for a peaceful, multilateral resolution to maritime territorial disputes in the South China Sea and Southeast Asia generally.

Senator Inhofe worked to sell Taiwan F-16 C/D aircraft critical to meeting U.S. obligations pursuant to the Taiwan Relations Act while preserving peace and security in the Taiwan Strait. On September 13, 2011, he introduced S. 1545, a bill that designates Taiwan as a visa waiver program country. This legislation qualifies residents of Taiwan to travel to the United States for tourism or business purposes for stays of 90 days or less without obtaining a travel visa. Currently, 36 countries participate in our nation’s visa waiver program.

No other Senator has been as consistently critical of the Chinese dictatorship and their efforts to stamp out political, economic and religious freedom in that country. Senator Inhofe is wary of

several aspects of Chinese Communist behavior such as their goals and methods to become a global super power, its dramatically increasing defense budget and proliferation of weapons and military technology throughout the world, and its relationship with unstable, thuggish regimes like North Korea, Iran and Sudan. Additionally, China has continued to ignore the basic human rights of its people.

Senator Inhofe also was a leader in requesting the Senate Committee on Appropriations to re-evaluate the level of direct foreign assistance the U.S. provides to China. Eleven of his colleagues joined him in a letter that specifically points out China as the second-largest economy in the world, and it has received more than \$275 million in foreign aid from the U.S. since 2001. In 2009 alone, U.S. agencies from across the government gave more than \$65 million in grants to China, and China continues to benefit from billions of dollars in development and infrastructure loans from multilateral institutions like the United Nations, the Asian Development Bank, and the World Bank to which the U.S. is the largest contributor. Senator Inhofe believes that the U.S. should end all foreign aid to China unless it helps the people of Tibet or promotes respect for human rights and democracy in China.

“Sen. Jim Webb joined Oklahoma Republican James Inhofe in calling for an end to U.S. development aid to China. The policy, which helps pay for infrastructure, has totaled \$275 million in direct assistance since 2001...Webb and Inhofe propose to do the right thing.”

- Richmond Times Dispatch Editorial, August 9, 2011

In Asia, Senator Inhofe also sees an immediate threat from North Korea. The country has gained increased international attention by successfully launching several Taepodong missiles, restarting its nuclear arms testing and materials manufacturing, and withdrawing from the 1953 armistice. All concerns for Senator Inhofe as he continues to support our strong ally, South Korea. The passing of dictator Kim Jong-il in late 2011 provides an opportunity for the U.S. and world to advance freedom for the starving people of North Korea. Senator Inhofe strongly support increased sanctions against the North Korean regime, and will continue to push the Obama administration to do more in securing the Korean Peninsula.



FOREIGN AFFAIRS

AFRICA

Over the past 15 years, Senator Inhofe has made over 120 African country visits. During these visits, he has built relationships, worked to bridge divides, and sought to secure the continent from the threat of spreading terrorism in the wake of 9/11. He has been a champion of those who live in some of the most squalid human conditions simply by accident of birth, and has supported funding to assist African nations support themselves and bring democracy and economic freedom to their countries. He was the strongest Congressional advocate for standing up the U.S. military's Africa Command (AFRICOM) to help the nations of the continent protect themselves from international terrorism such as *al-Qaida* as it was squeezed out of Iraq and parts of the Middle East down through the Horn of Africa.

LRA

Raising awareness of African issues in Congress has been one of Senator Inhofe's greatest foreign relations efforts. Among those issues that he has worked on for many years is the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and its leader Joseph Kony. For over 20 years, Kony and his LRA have been responsible for the displacement and murder of innocent children, women, and men in Uganda and other Central African countries. Following the enactment of the Lord's Resistance Army Disarmament and Northern Uganda Recovery Act of 2009, Senator Inhofe continued to stay engaged. He included LRA language in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), and pressured the Obama administration to implement a strategy to "apprehend or remove" Joseph Kony while protecting civilians in the Great Lakes region of Africa. In the Fall of 2011, Senator Inhofe provided written testimony to a House hearing on the LRA that outlined the national security issues associated with the LRA and why he supports the 100 advise and assist troops that were sent to help African countries end Kony's reign of terror.

Ivory Coast

Since the Cote d'Ivoire electoral crisis began in November 2010, Senator Inhofe has given eight Senate floor speeches calling upon the parties to solve this crisis in a peaceful manner. Senator Inhofe continues to condemn the manner in which the UN and France attacked and ousted democratically elected President Laurent Gbagbo. He continues to call upon rebel leader Ouattara to release former First Lady Simone Gbagbo so she can leave Cote d'Ivoire. Senator Inhofe wrote to President Obama of Equatorial Guinea, head of the African Union, informing him of the crisis and asking the African Union to intercede. He also wrote Secretary of State Clinton on a number of occasions seeking intervention and a new presidential election that would address the massive voter fraud. Finally, Senator Inhofe requested a Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing to look into the election fraud and atrocities occurring in the Ivory Coast. Chairman Kerry granted the request. The hearing occurred on May 19, 2011, and Senator Inhofe pressed State Department officials for answers.

**"Senator Inhofe and I share a passion and interest for the continent of Africa. He has traveled there many, many more times than I have. But, we have talked about the situation on that continent. I want to give a special accolade to him for continuing to raise the questions relative to the continent and the people who live there. It is an important part of the world and for too long has been exploited. I'm glad on a bipartisan basis, we both feel that the U.S. should pay and focus more attention on that important continent. I thank Senator Inhofe."
– Dick Durbin (D-IL), Senate Majority Whip**



Senator Inhofe presses witnesses during the Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on Cote d'Ivoire.

Sudan

Senator Inhofe wrote Secretary of State Clinton to encourage the establishment of humanitarian relief corridors from the newly created country of South Sudan to South Kordofan and the Blue Nile State in Sudan.



FOREIGN AFFAIRS

AFRICA (continued)

Kenya

Senator Inhofe wrote Secretary of State Clinton to request U.S. support for the African Union’s endorsement of Kenya’s request to suspend the International Criminal Court trials of alleged perpetrators of violence connected with the 2001 Kenyan post-election chaos. This was done in reaction to the efforts by the Kenyan government to reform their own judicial system instead of moving the trials outside their sovereign territory.

Zimbabwe

Senator Inhofe introduced the Zimbabwe Sanctions Repeal Act (S. 1646) which would lift U.S. economic sanctions originally imposed on the African nation of Zimbabwe in 2001. Senator Inhofe introduced this bill as a reaction to the positive steps taken by the transitional power-sharing government that was created in 2008. Zimbabwe has been under international pressure to move the country away from the 31-year rule of dictator Robert Mugabe.



Senator Inhofe with members of an Africa delegation visiting Washington, D.C.

The reformist elements of this power-sharing government, headed by Morgan Tsvangira, brought down the annual inflation rate from 15 billion percent to 2.5 percent in less than three years. They have also improved the GDP of Zimbabwe from negative 14.4 percent to a positive 9.3 percent in the same period. Inhofe’s bill is intended to allow the country to further restore its economy, and aid the nation’s transition to democracy. Specifically, it would lift the 2001 sanctions which directed to the U.S. to oppose and vote against any extension of loans, credits, or guarantees to Zimbabwe from the United States or any international financial institution. The measure would help Zimbabwe return to being the ‘Breadbasket of Africa’ and continue its road toward democracy.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Senator Inhofe has fought for the right of all peoples to enjoy democracy, economic freedom and human rights, especially the human right to practice one’s own religion. It is vital to protect one of our most precious constitutional liberties: the freedom of religion. Unfortunately, not all countries share the United States’ commitment to promoting and protecting human rights. Senator Inhofe believes that our country should be a beacon of hope to the world by promoting these freedoms.

Senator Inhofe introduced S. Res. 150 to call for the protection of religious minority rights and freedoms in the Arab world. The resolution was prompted by the reports of violence against religious minorities like Arab Christians during the Arab Spring. He also cosponsored a bill (S. 1039) to impose sanctions on Russian officials for gross violations of human rights in the Russian Federation, including the detention, abuse, and horrible death of prisoner Sergei Magnitsky. Magnitsky was an anti-corruption lawyer who was attempting to expose a conspiracy to defraud the Russian Federation of taxes on corporate profits through fraudulent transactions and lawsuits against an American investment company.

Senator Inhofe wrote Secretary of State Clinton to request that the U.S. use its influence to convince the Palestinian Authority to re-recognize the First Baptist Church in Bethlehem as a legal religious denomination.



FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MIDDLE EAST

Senator Inhofe has repeatedly spoken out for and worked to defend the people and State of Israel from neighbors whose goal has been to drive “into the sea” the free and sole democracy in that region of the world. In 2011, Senator Inhofe was the leader of a Congressional Delegation trip that included a visit to Israel with briefings from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Senator Inhofe believes a strong U.S. relationship with Israel is not only vital for Israel’s sovereignty and national security, but for our national security as well. The relationship is a true partnership with both sides equally benefiting from our close friendship which will ultimately keep in check the radical powers of the region.

In 2011, Senator Inhofe spoke on the Senate floor to reiterate his position that the disputed land belongs to Israel. During the speech, he outlined the several reasons why that is the case. He also repeatedly pressed the Obama administration on the Israel issue, and sent several letters to leaders around the world discouraging them from supporting the Palestinian effort to gain statehood through the United Nations and outside the peace process.

THE UNITED NATIONS

Senator Inhofe firmly believes that the U.S. must protect its sovereignty. Serious problems with the U.N. revolve around its massive bureaucracy, excessive spending and inefficient organizational structure which wastes taxpayer dollars and ultimately could compromise our national sovereignty. For this reason, he has opposed many treaties such as the Law of the Sea Treaty.

While the U.N. seeks to bring about noble goals such as world peace and cooperation among states, Senator Inhofe has serious concerns about the means that have been employed to achieve those ends. Additionally, the U.N.’s peacekeeping missions have been historically ineffective and have been used to further questionable foreign policy-making agendas.

Senator Inhofe joined Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) to introduce the United Nations Transparency, Accountability, and Reform Act (S. 1848) which would direct the President to use U.S. influence at the U.N. on a variety of issues, including to shift the funding mechanism for the regular budget of the U.N. from an assessed fee to a voluntary one. It also would set forth U.S. policy regarding reform of U.N. peacekeeping operations and directs the President to use U.S. influence at the U.N. to oppose the creation of new or expanded peacekeeping operations.



Senator Inhofe was the leader of a Congressional Delegation trip to Israel in 2011.

LEGISLATION PASSED

Senator Inhofe was a supporter of S. Res. 185. The resolution, which passed the Senate with the support of 89 members, reaffirmed the commitment of the United States to a negotiated settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through direct Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. It also reaffirmed opposition to the inclusion of Hamas in a unity government unless it accepts peace with Israel and renounces violence. The resolution further declared that Palestinian efforts to gain recognition as a state outside direct negotiations demonstrates absence of a good faith commitment to peace negotiations, and would adversely impact continued United States aid.



OTHER NOTABLE ITEMS

ABORTION

Senator Inhofe, a strong advocate for protecting the sanctity of life, cosponsored seven pieces of pro-life legislation working to protect life no matter how young. Additionally, he worked with his colleagues in the Senate to stop public financing of abortions in Washington, D.C.

He cosponsored the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act (S. 314) that requires an abortion provider who knowingly performs an abortion of a pain-capable unborn child (defined as an unborn child who has reached a probable stage of development of 20 weeks or more after fertilization), to take several steps to inform the mother about the pain that the unborn child will experience.

AVIATION

Senator Inhofe has worked with the FAA to modernize 20-25 year old storage tanks at the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center in Oklahoma City. These improvements would prevent leaks and the potential threat for groundwater contamination. He also prioritized necessary improvements to the Thomas Stafford Building in Oklahoma City.

On August 30, 2011, Senator Inhofe wrote the President of the National Aeronautic Association, Jonathan Gaffney, nominating Robert A. “Bob” Hoover to be awarded the Henderson Award. The Henderson Award is a trophy given to someone who has made a significant and lasting contribution to the advancement of aviation and aerospace in the United States. Mr. Hoover is an outstanding individual whose broad influence on our modern aviation and aerospace industry has without doubt been one of vision, leadership, and skill. He is considered one of the founding fathers of modern aerobatics.

BOY SCOUTS

Senator Inhofe once again introduced the HALE Scouts Act (S.610). This bill authorizes U.S. Forest Service to sell, at fair-market value, 140 acres of land from the Ouachita Forest to the Indian Nations Council of Boy Scouts. Currently, the U.S. Forest Service owns 140 acres of land adjacent to a Boy Scout campsite in southeastern Oklahoma. As the organization continues to grow, they are in desperate need of a new expansion to their campsite. Rep. Dan Boren introduced the House version of this bill (H.R. 473).

“Camp Tom Hale has been an invaluable resource each year, to teach over 6,000 boys and young men life skills to be better citizens of the world. With the dedication of Senator Inhofe and Congressman Boren, we hope to see expansion of this camp and increase the number of scouts that can attend the program.”
- Bill Haines, Indian Nations Council Scout Executive

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In June 2011, Senators Inhofe joined a bi-partisan effort introducing the Economic Revitalization Act (S. 782). The bill would reauthorize the Economic Development Administration (EDA). EDA has long worked to promote job creation and to accelerate industrial and commercial growth in communities suffering from limited job opportunities, low per capita income levels, or similar economic distress. Over the past 7 years, EDA grants awarded in Oklahoma have resulted in more than 9,000 jobs being created or saved. With a federal investment of about \$26 million, Oklahoma has leveraged another \$33 million in state and local dollars and more than \$558 million in private sector dollars. Communities like Woodward, Elgin, Durant, Claremore, and others have all greatly benefited from this assistance. Senator Inhofe proposed two amendments to improve the EDA: the first reduced the authorization level and the second directed the GAO to perform oversight of grant making procedures to ensure that federal grants are being awarded in a transparent and competitive process in accordance with EDA criteria.



OTHER NOTABLE ITEMS

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

In April 2011, Senator Inhofe cosponsored the Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest Establishment Act (S.710), introduced by Senator John Thune (R-S.D.). The bill creates an e-manifest system that greatly improves how the federal government tracks the shipment of hazardous waste. It will lessen the paperwork burden on regulated entities, and improve record keeping and federal oversight over hazardous waste transportation, saving \$60 - \$80 million a year.

As Ranking Member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, Senator Inhofe has a unique position to provide opportunities for Oklahomans to be heard in Congressional deliberations:

“I thank Senator Inhofe for the opportunity to come before the committee and share the successes Oklahoma City has had with the EPA Brownfields programs and grant funds. Senator Inhofe has been a great friend to Oklahoma City through the years and has always been very supportive of our efforts.”
- Mick Cornett, Mayor of Oklahoma City

Mr. Steven D. Lewis: Due to inclement weather, Mr. Steven D. Lewis, the City Manager of the City of Norman, was prevented from making a scheduled appearance before the EPW Committee. Nevertheless, his testimony was made part of the record and focused on the drinking water report issued by the Environmental Working Group. Specifically, Lewis’s testimony addressed the flawed findings of the EWG and efforts being made by Norman, Oklahoma to protect the public health and ensure safe drinking water for all Oklahomans.

Jeff Cloud: On April 12, Senator Inhofe welcomed Jeff Cloud, the Vice Chairman of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, to testify concerning Oklahoma’s long and successful history in regulating hydraulic fracturing.

Shellie Chard-McClary: On October 4, Senator Inhofe welcomed Shellie Chard-McClary, the Division Director of the Water Quality Division of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, to testify before about Oklahoma’s approach to water nutrient pollution.

Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett: On October 19, Senator Inhofe welcomed Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett for an oversight hearing on EPA’s Brownfields program. Mayor Cornett spoke to the committee regarding the recent accomplishments of the Brownsfield Program and the overall success of the initiative.

Joe Freeman: On December 13, Joe Freeman, the Financial Assistance Division Chief for the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, testified on the importance of the State Revolving Fund (SRF), and additionally, the significance of the federal government in allowing states to have maximum flexibility in order to meet their individual water quality needs.

Gary Ridley: In 2011, Oklahoma’s Secretary of Transportation, Gary Ridley, testified twice before the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. On April 14th, Secretary Ridley, while advocating for increased investment in infrastructure, also took time to criticize various federal laws and policies that have had a negative impact on the state of Oklahoma. On July 22, Ridley advocated yet again for efforts to improve Oklahoma’s highway system, and warned that a major cut in federal road funds could delay completion of a huge Interstate 44 project in Tulsa and result in additional traffic deaths.

LEGISLATION PASSED

Senator Inhofe helped pass bipartisan legislation to strengthen standards for lead in drinking water. The measure will uniformly reduce the allowable lead content in drinking water pipes, pipe fittings and plumbing fixtures without imposing a burden on America’s manufacturers. It was signed into law early this year as Public Law No: 111-380.





OTHER NOTABLE ITEMS

EMERGENCY RESPONSE & DISASTER RELIEF

Senator Inhofe has consistently worked to assist Oklahomans with relief following disaster conditions. In June 2011, Senator Inhofe worked to assist the Edmond residents with relief following flood conditions.

“This has been a joint effort getting to this point. The work from staff and legislators like Sen. Jim Inhofe has paid off. Much appreciation goes to the senator for helping secure the funding.”

- Patrice Douglas, Edmond Mayor

EDUCATION

In 2011, Senator Inhofe worked to ensure that the Impact Aid program receives the appropriate funding to reimburse Oklahoma’s school districts. The Impact Aid program supplements the ad valorem funding school districts in Oklahoma do not collect due to the presence of military and federal land. Senator Inhofe worked to ensure the National Defense Authorization Act sustains supplemental funding for schools with military children with an authorization of \$5 million from DOD-wide operations and maintenance funds. Additionally since May 2011, Senator Inhofe has worked with Under Secretary of the Army Joseph Westphal to rebuild the two elementary schools on Fort Sill.

“I am truly excited to be here with Sen. Inhofe to share some of this with him. He's done a lot to build and support this institution [Ft. Sill].”

- Joseph Westphal, Under Secretary of the Army

Senator Inhofe is also a cosponsor of the Impact Aid Timely Repayment Act (S. 595) that would require the Secretary of Education to complete Impact Aid payments to eligible local educational agencies (LEAs) within three fiscal years of their appropriation.

“This funding is tremendously exciting news during a time of cuts in education funding, and it will allow school districts affected by Impact Aid to continue programs that otherwise would have been eliminated. This is a win for our students. We are blessed to have the support of Senator Inhofe on this issue, and we are thankful for his support for the future education of our children.”

–Barry Beauchamp, Superintendent of Lawton Public Schools

HEALTH CARE

LEGISLATION PASSED

Senator Inhofe co-sponsored S. 384. It amends title 39, United States Code, to extend the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue a stamp to raise funds for breast cancer research. The measure passed by Unanimous Consent on 12/23/2011 and became Public Law 112-80.

LEGISLATION PASSED

Senator Inhofe co-sponsored S. Res. 278 designating September 2011 as National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month to raise awareness of and improve access to health care services for detecting and treating prostate cancer. It passed by Unanimous Consent on 9/23/2011.

LEGISLATION PASSED

Senator Inhofe was the lead Republican sponsor of S. Res. 219. The resolution designated September 13, 2011, as National Celiac Disease Awareness Day. It passed by Unanimous Consent on 9/7/2011.

LEGISLATION PASSED

Senator Inhofe co-sponsored S.RES.172. It recognizes the importance of cancer research and the contributions made by those across the U.S. who are dedicated to finding a cure for cancer. It designated May 2011, as "National Cancer Research Month". It passed by Unanimous Consent on 5/26/2011.



OTHER NOTABLE ITEMS

IMMIGRATION

On September 26, 2011 Senator Inhofe and other members of Congress sent President Barack Obama a letter concerned with the Administration’s initiative announced by Secretary Napolitano. Secretary Napolitano instructed to the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice to eliminate low-priority deportation cases, and focus their recourses on cases where illegal aliens have been convicted of a crime within the United States. The Obama Administration believes that this will create immigration enforcement pressure where it counts the most. This decision ignores the wrongdoing of thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands, of individuals who broke the immigration laws of the United States

Senator Inhofe also again introduced the English Language Unity Act (S. 503). The bill makes English the official language of the United States. In addition to making English the official language of the federal government, this bill goes further by codifying the pre-eminence of English in our society and requires that naturalization ceremonies and oaths of citizenship be conducted solely in English.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Senator Inhofe introduced the Lake Thunderbird Efficient Use Act of 2011 (S. 802) . Through this legislation, the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District (COMCD) is granted the authority to import and store water into Lake Thunderbird. Due to the increase of population in the Norman area, the additional water stored at Lake Thunderbird would help increase municipal and industrial supplies for cities including Norman, Midwest City, and Del City, ensuring greater access to water supplies for those communities. Residents surrounding Lake Thunderbird will not face an increase of cost, and the legislation will not cost taxpayers a single dime. The bill was marked up and ordered to be reported out of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee on November 10, 2011. Its report was filed, and the bill was placed on the Calendar of the Senate on January 13, 2012.

“I am very pleased Senator Inhofe has decided to introduce the Lake Thunderbird Efficient Use Act of 2011. Unless this bill is signed into law, the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District will be hard pressed to supply enough water to meet the growing demand of the Norman area, which includes Midwest City and Del City. Senator Inhofe’s leadership on this issue proves his reliable dedication to all Oklahoma communities, large and small.”

- Marilyn Geiger, COMCD Board Member

MARRIAGE

Senator Inhofe introduced S. Con. Res. 11, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the Obama administration's refusal to defend the federal law called Defense of Marriage Act. It is wrong that the Obama administration believes it can unilaterally deem a law, passed by Congress and signed by the President of the United States, unconstitutional and therefore unworthy of defense in federal court. This is a failure by the Obama Administration to carry out its most basic duty, which is to enforce the law.

POSTAL REFORM

On December 13, 2011, Senator Inhofe along with Congressman John Sullivan (R-OK) sent a letter to Postmaster General Donahoe expressing their concerns regarding the closure of the Tulsa Processing & Distribution center. This facility has a proven track record of efficiency and is key location in a burgeoning area of the state. All closures have been postponed until May 2012.



MEDIA MATTERS

OPINIONS & EDITORIALS

Editorials

Tulsa World (2/26/2011) - Inhofe's earmark efforts unwavering, welcome

Washington Examiner (8/31/2011) - Stop Using Tax Dollars to Fund Big Green Lawsuits

The Oklahoman (9/6/2011) - Jim Inhofe: EPA regulations more damaging than deficit

Tulsa World (9/2/2011) - Congress Must Act Soon to Extend Highway Funding

Op-Eds by Senator Inhofe

The Hill's Congress Blog: Ending the federal spending spree, January 28, 2011. "I remember receiving a call from then-U.S. Senator Carl Curtis of Nebraska. The year was 1971. He was in Washington advocating a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution, but he knew that in order to make it happen there had to be a movement among state legislatures. Senator Curtis was asking for my help. So, as a state senator, I led the effort in Oklahoma to pre-ratify a Constitutional Amendment to require the federal government to balance its books..."

Tulsa World: Reagan - A look back, February 5, 2011. "As a small child, I had no idea that the man I knew as "Dutch" Reagan would one day become one of the most popular presidents in American history. Today, many try to emulate Ronald Reagan, but until he ran for office, I just thought of him as part of the family..."

Politico: No one-size-fits-all flight regulations, February 9, 2011. "The Senate is soon due to vote on our amendment to the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization bill, which would require the FAA to conduct a separate flight crew duty and rest rulemaking proceeding for supplemental air carriers. The current rulemaking proceeding, effective last September, combines supplemental carriers with scheduled airlines..."

The Oklahoman: Leadership for fiscal restraint, February 13, 2011. "America has a debt problem, and it's worse than you think. In all my years of public service, I've never been more concerned about our country's future than I am now. We have it in our power to make the necessary changes, but that work must begin immediately..."

Politico: 1980s gear harms troops, February 28, 2011. "As the world rang in 2011, I led a congressional delegation to visit our troops in the Middle East and Afghanistan. While there, I saw firsthand the challenges that our men and women in uniform face. Sometimes those challenges aren't just the enemy they're fighting. Sometimes the outdated and aging equipment they are fighting with is working against them..."

Human Events: Earmark ban a huge victory for Obama, March 14, 2011. "The current ban on congressional earmarks gives the Obama administration and federal bureaucrats even greater power and authority over the expenditure of taxpayer funds. It's no surprise then, that President Obama was quick to endorse the ban on congressional earmarks – it grants his administration more power to pursue its agenda by exercising a power that properly resides with Congress. The President even endorsed the ban with his veto threat during this year's State of the Union Address and in subsequent speeches..."

AWARDS

- ⇒ 60 Plus Association "Guardian of Seniors' Rights"
- ⇒ American Conservative Union "ACU Conservative"
- ⇒ Associated Builders and Contractors "Champion of the Merit Shop"
- ⇒ American Public Works Association "The Citation for Exemplary Service to Public Works Award"
- ⇒ Club for Growth "Defender of Economic Freedom Award"
- ⇒ Military Order of the Purple Heart "MOPH Award for Inspirational Leadership"
- ⇒ National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies "Benjamin Franklin Public Policy Award"
- ⇒ National Taxpayers Union "Taxpayers' Friend Award"



MEDIA MATTERS

OPINIONS & EDITORIALS (continued)

Human Events: Energy Tax Prevention Act: The Only End to Cap and Trade, March 28, 2011. “The evidence is in: The Obama Environmental Protection Agency’s cap-and-trade agenda is destroying jobs and decreasing domestic energy supplies. That agenda is slowing our economic recovery. It will mean higher gas and electricity bills for consumers....”

Tulsa World: State, not EPA, should address regional haze power costs, April 14, 2011. “The Environmental Protection Agency will conduct public hearings in Tulsa and Oklahoma City this week, and Oklahomans concerned about higher electricity bills should attend....”

The Hill: Less federal control over state waters, April 14, 2011. “If you spend time in Washington, you will hear endless chatter about global warming, creating the impression that Americans are clamoring for action. But according to a Gallup poll released in March, despite the tens of millions of dollars spent promoting cap-and-trade, global warming ranked lowest on the list of environmental concerns....”

Oklahoma Gazette: Counterpoint: ‘Clean, reliable and affordable’ power, April 20, 2011. “In March, Japan suffered from a devastating earthquake followed thereafter by a massive tsunami. In its aftermath, the world witnessed a nuclear accident at the Fukushima nuclear power plant...our nuclear plants are indeed safe and we should continue to develop new nuclear plants. Reactors built in the U.S. are robust and designed to withstand significant natural disasters, including earthquakes, tornados and hurricanes....”

The Daily Caller: Actually, we can drill our way to energy security, May 03, 2011. “In the debate over rising gas prices, Washington is creating a massive distraction: whether Congress should eliminate tax “subsidies” for oil and gas companies. Of course oil and gas companies don’t receive checks, grants, or direct payments from the federal Treasury, so the debate is a red herring. What’s really needed is price relief for consumers at the pump. The best way to do that is to produce more affordable energy here at home....”

USA Today: Inhofe's view: All pain, no gain May 16, 2011. “Not too long ago, President Obama and his Democratic allies in Congress proudly announced that America would lead the fight against global warming by passing a cap-and-trade bill. But despite overwhelming majorities in both houses of Congress in 2009, Democrats barely found the votes to get the proposal through the House, and Senate Democrats never even brought it up for a vote....”

Oklahoman: We remember their sacrifice, May 26, 2011. “This Memorial Day, our nation owes a debt of gratitude to America’s finest; our service-members and veterans. Their service and selfless sacrifice has shaped our nation and ensured our freedom for centuries. Without their commendable service, our nation would not be what it is today – a free and thriving democracy...”

The Hill’s Congress Blog: China’s naval harassments cannot be tolerated, June 21, 2011. “Over the past twelve months, China has been carrying out calculated acts of naval harassment in the South China Sea. This is just the latest from Communist China, a country which – for several years – has declared such of the South China Sea as its exclusive economic zone. This has threatened the other countries (nine in all) of the region who have overlapping claims to the 1.35 million square miles of water...”

McAlester News-Capital: Nation’s economic woes can be fixed, July 13, 2011. “18,000. That’s the number of jobs that were created across the country last month. The month before? 25,000. In the last two months, the largest, most industrious and productive economy in the world created only 43,000 jobs. That is not enough to keep up with a growing workforce, and now the unemployment rate is at 9.2 percent. Things are moving in the wrong direction....”



MEDIA MATTERS

OPINIONS & EDITORIALS (continued)

The Hill: Federal interference in energy development regulation a bad idea, July 19, 2011. “The United States reached an extraordinary milestone in 2009: A flood of domestic natural gas production propelled America past Russia to become the world's largest producer of natural gas. But considering the Obama administration's aggressive anti-fossil-fuel agenda, how could this possibly have occurred?”

Oklahoman: Debt issue offers a chance for leadership July 22, 2011. “Every now and then, a moment emerges in history that is like no other. Moments like these provide the opportunity to do something great that will have a lasting impact. The circumstances that produce these moments don’t come often, but one thing is certain: They will come, and history generally judges leaders by the way they respond to them...”

Tulsa Today: The check is in the mail September 14, 2011. “Our nation’s economy must be strengthened. No new jobs were created during the month of August, and unemployment remains over 9 percent, meaning 14 million Americans are still without jobs. Cue President Obama’s preferred style of leadership: a high profile speech followed by campaign-styled stops in future battleground states...”

Investor’s Business Daily: Our overregulated economy – murder by 1,000 paper cuts, September 21, 2011. “Overregulation by President Obama and his administration is crippling our nation’s economy. By the government’s own estimation, the annual cost of regulations is \$1.75 trillion. Since taking office, the Obama administration has instituted 75 new major regulations, meaning that each has an expected economic impact of at least \$100 million per year...”

Oklahoman: 45th Infantry Brigade fighting, winning in Afghanistan, October 13, 2011. “Sitting across the mess hall table and visiting their forward operating base, I could see it in their eyes and hear it in their voices. It has been a hard few months for Oklahomans fighting in Afghanistan. Despite the difficulties, including the recent losses that have touched so many of us here at home, the soldiers of the 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team are upbeat and committed to the fight. From what I saw and heard from them, it is clear that this fight is worth waging, and they are winning...”

Lawton Constitution: Assisting Africa in fighting terrorism is in U.S. national security interest, October 20, 2011. “Helping Sub-Sahara African countries eliminate the threat posed by the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) terrorist group and brutal leader Joseph Kony is in the national interest of the United States...”

McAlester News-Capital: Adoption: a story of hope, new beginnings, November 10, 2011. “From the moment I first held Zegita Marie in my arms, I knew she was someone very special. From half the world away, a different culture on a different continent, she came into my family through adoption...”

Edmond Sun: The spirit of Thanksgiving, November 18, 2011. “For generations, during this season, our nation has taken time to turn our thoughts toward thankfulness. While many will gather with family and friends to show gratitude for blessings received, others will struggle and question if what they have been dealt this year is worthy of giving thanks...”

Roll Call: Inhofe: Modernization must not fall victim to cuts, November 22. “We have the finest fighting force in the world. Our men and women in uniform volunteer to carry out the most important function of government: providing a national defense. They have been giving us their best, but Washington has failed to reciprocate...”

BY THE NUMBERS

- ⇒ **Twitter Followers: 3,875**
- ⇒ **Facebook Followers: 4,869**
- ⇒ **Radio and TV Interviews: 113**
- ⇒ **Floor Speeches: 56**
- ⇒ **Youtube Videos: 143**
- **Subscribers: 963**
- **Channel Views: 74,005**
- **Total Upload Views: 1,163,187**