



ANTI-SCIENCE CLIMATE DENIER CAUCUS

Climate change is happening, and humans are the cause. But a shocking number of congressional Republicans—more than [55 percent](#)—refuse to accept it.

One hundred and fifty-seven elected representatives from the 113th Congress have taken more than [\\$51 million](#) from the fossil-fuel industry, which is the driving force behind the carbon emissions that cause climate change. These representatives deny what more than [97 percent](#) of climate scientists say is happening: Current human activity creates the greenhouse gas emissions that trap heat within the atmosphere and cause climate change.

And their constituents are paying the price, with Americans across the nation suffering 368 climate-related national [disaster declarations](#) since 2011. There were [25 extreme weather events](#) that each caused at least \$1 billion in damage since 2011, including Superstorm Sandy and overwhelming drought that has covered almost the entire western half of the United States. Combined, these extreme weather events were responsible for 1,107 fatalities and up to [\\$188 billion](#) in economic damages.

NORTH CAROLINA

We have a moral obligation to act on climate change to protect our future generations. Despite the overwhelming scientific consensus and high costs to taxpayers, North Carolina has five resident deniers who have taken [\\$796,128](#) in career dirty energy contributions. In comparison, the remaining 10 members of the North Carolina delegation have only taken \$409,700. The state has suffered [four climate-related disaster declarations](#) in North Carolina since 2011, including Hurricane Irene, which caused [660,000 power outages, at least \\$1.2 billion in damages, and seven deaths](#). Below are quotes from North Carolina's five members of Congress who refuse to believe there is a problem to address:

Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC-05): “North Carolina Republican Virginia Foxx referenced books by climate-change skeptics and lamented that some environmentalists ‘think that we, human beings, have more impact on the climate and the world than God does.’” [[The Huffington Post, April 7, 2011](#)]

Rep. Richard Hudson (R-NC-08): When asked if human activity is contributing to climate change, Rep. Hudson responded no. [[Project Vote Smart Political Courage Survey](#)]

Rep. Walter B. Jones (R-NC-03): “However, there is substantial disagreement regarding the extent of this warming, whether it’s caused by human activity or simply nature taking its course, and what solutions, if any, should be implemented. The bottom line is that the scientific community does not speak with one voice on this issue.” [[Crystal Coast Tea Party, Jones Letter, December 17, 2009](#)]

Rep. Robert Pittenger (R-NC-09): “While the Earth is currently warming, the real question that should be asked is, ‘Can we do anything about it?’ The answer is very little, since this cycle was occurring prior to the first human civilizations.” [[The Charlotte Observer, February 7, 2006](#)]

Sen. Richard Burr (R-NC): “Sen. Richard Burr (R-N.C.) said he is skeptical of recent reports showing a threat of rising sea levels in his home state.” [[ThinkProgress, September 13, 2010](#)]