

Frank Kratovil is bad for the Eastern Shore

Representative Frank Kratovil voted to impose cap-and-trade regulations on our farmers who struggle to make a living on the Eastern Shore. Farming is energy intensive and the bill which Congressman Kratovil supported will create a massive tax on energy, all in the name of saving the planet from global warming. Cap-and-trade legislation is really a massive tax on all of us but particularly on our farmers.

After having to produce internal documents because of the Freedom of Information Act, the Treasury Department has had to admit that cap-and-trade could generate between \$100 billion to \$200 billion a year. All families can expect to pay an additional \$1,761 a year, which amounts to hiking the personal income taxes by about 15%, and farmers with farms of 800 to 1,900 acres of corn, soybeans and wheat can expect annual cost increases of \$4,903 to \$11,649 by 2020, mostly from higher costs of natural-gas-derived fertilizer and overall increased energy costs. According to climatologists, all of these costs will pay for no more than about 1/3 degree moderation in world temperature by 2100. Speaking of global warming, Congressman Kratovil seems to accept the now discredited assumption that man is causing global warming by increased carbon dioxide emissions. This in spite of the leak of the internal e-mails and documents of the Climate Research Unit at the University of East Anglia which clearly show that they were "cooking the books".

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(Letter to the Editor of the *Star Democrat*)