



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.

MICHIGAN

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, Michigan has seven resident deniers who have taken [\\$1,642,507](#) in dirty energy contributions. The state has suffered [one climate-related disaster declaration](#) since 2011, when the [Grand River flooded](#) and a state of emergency was declared in 41 counties. Below are quotes from five of Michigan's resident deniers who refuse to believe there is a problem to address:

Rep. Dan Benishek (R-MI-01): “Rep. Benishek has said that climate change is ‘all baloney’ and ‘just some scheme.’ Pointing to his background as a general surgeon, Benishek claims he’s ‘a scientist’ who has the expertise to know that climate change is ‘unproven science stuff.’” [[League of Conservation Voters, July 24, 2012](#)]

Rep. Dave Camp (R-MI-04): “What is the science of climate change? What can it definitively tell us? Can it say who is responsible for it? Can it tell us what impact we can have on it, and if we can, what are the results—both positive and negative? From what I have read, there remains a great deal of uncertainty with regard to the scientific evidence about climate change.” [[Hearing on Scientific Objectives for Climate Change Legislation](#)]

Rep. Bill Huizenga (R-MI-02): “Today’s global warming doomsayers simply lack the scientific evidence to support their claims. A host of leaders in the scientific community have recognized that the argument for drastic anthropogenic global warming is no longer based on science, but is being driven by irrational fanaticism.” [[Vote MI](#)]

Rep. Candice Miller (R-MI-10): “There is little doubt that the world’s climate is changing, because the climate has always changed. Just ask the dinosaurs or remember the ice age and how huge glaciers melting and moving formed our Great Lakes. The question is whether the current climate change is human-induced.” [[Rep. Miller’s website, December 14, 2009](#)]

Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI-06): “Are any of those incurred costs actually going to impact the rising temperature under debate? The answer was no. No matter what we did between now and 2050 it, it, there was no real science to verify that it would reduce the temperature rise that some predicted. And that’s why we do need hearings [on the Climategate emails].” [[ThinkProgress, November 20, 2010](#)]