

Gingrich says climate bill will punish Americans

April 24 2009, By DINA CAPPIELLO and H. JOSEF HEBERT ,
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FILE - In this May 14, 2008 file photo, former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington. (AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana, File)

(AP) -- Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich says a Democratic proposal to limit global warming pollution will "punish the American people" with higher energy costs and lost jobs. Gingrich appeared before a House subcommittee writing a broad energy and climate bill aimed at cutting greenhouse gases by 80 percent by mid-century.

Gingrich, a leading Republican voice who has indicated he may seek the presidency in 2012, criticized the Democrats' cap-and-trade climate proposal. He called it "an energy tax" that will increase Americans' cost of living and kill jobs.

Democratic Rep. Henry Waxman of California accused Gingrich of trying to scare people into opposing action on [climate change](#). Waxman argued the bill is designed to contain energy cost increases.

THIS IS A BREAKING NEWS UPDATE. Check back soon for further information. AP's earlier story is below.

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