Washington, DC — Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.) delivered the following statement on the House floor today, during consideration of the Energy Policy Act:

"The $138 billion price tag of this bill may buy it support, but it is not going to buy us energy independence. It turns its back on meaningful energy conservation measures that would have meant permanent savings for millions of Americans. It ignores investment in renewable energy. And its $138 billion cost to the taxpayers pales in comparison to the hidden cost to our environment. This legislation will extend our dependence on fossil fuels for decades to come. With this bill we have lost the opportunity to craft a comprehensive energy policy that would make this country safer, healthier and more economically secure."