



# Statement

For Immediate Release

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## **ACC SALUTES SENATORS PRYOR AND WARNER FOR LEGISLATION TO EXPAND ACCESS TO NATURAL GAS SUPPLY**

*Bipartisan Legislation Would Help Meet Nation's Critical Needs,  
Enhance Energy Independence*

ARLINGTON, VA (February 16, 2006) – *Yesterday U.S. Senators Mark Pryor (D-AR) and John Warner (R-VA) introduced the Reliable and Affordable Natural Gas Reform Act of 2006 (RANGER Act). The bill is co-sponsored by Senator Jim Talent (R-MO).*

*American Chemistry Council President & CEO Jack N. Gerard issued the following statement:*

“We applaud Senators Pryor, Warner and Talent for bringing forward legislation that would provide greater access to the nation’s natural gas supplies. The Senators’ bipartisan initiative indicates growing recognition of the natural gas crisis that is weakening America’s manufacturing sector, sending millions of jobs overseas, squeezing consumers and threatening the nation’s economic and national security. The legislation demonstrates a keen understanding that new sources of supply are sorely needed in order to keep pace with rising demand. It also reinforces the need for long-term solutions that will provide reliable access to the nation’s own vast natural gas supplies.

“When it comes to natural gas, policymakers exert enormous influence on supply, demand and price. We are hopeful that the Congress will move forward with swift passage of legislation that will bring price relief to America’s consumers and keep American jobs in the United States.”

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*The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products and services that make people's lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health and safety performance through Responsible Care, common sense advocacy designed to address major public policy issues, and health and environmental research and product testing. The business of chemistry is a \$520 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is one of the nation's largest exporters, accounting for ten cents out of every dollar in U.S. exports. Chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development. Safety and security have always been primary concerns of ACC members, and they have intensified their efforts, working closely with government agencies to improve security and to defend against any threat to the nation's critical infrastructure.*