

**\*\*\*\* REMINDER AND NOTICE OF AGENDA CHANGE \*\*\*\***

September 16, 2004

Dear Colleague:

We invite you and your environmental legislative assistant to join us for a briefing sponsored by the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School on:

**“Extreme Weather Events, Climate Instability and Abrupt Climate Change:  
Implications for Human Health”**

**Monday, September 20, 2004**

**From 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

**In Capital Building, HC-6**

**Coffee and pastries will be served**

In the past five years precipitation events, heat waves and droughts have been responsible for unprecedented loss of human life and the spread of infectious diseases. This briefing will cover the impacts of extreme weather events - could larger hurricanes be a consequence of global warming? - and the ocean dynamics that drive these events, as well as the climate's sensitivity to abrupt change. The mounting public health, ecological and economic 'costs of inaction' and the growing potential for abrupt climate change catapult these concerns into the forefront of deliberations regarding practices and policies aimed at stabilizing the climate and stimulating economic growth.

**Topics and speakers include:**

**Climate Instability and Public Health**

Paul R. Epstein, M.D., M.P.H.

Center for Health and the Global Environment, Harvard Medical School

**Extreme Weather Events and Human Health: Focus on Heatwaves**

Lawrence Kalkstein, Ph.D.

University of Delaware

**Bigger Hurricanes: A Consequence of Climate Change?**

Ruth Curry, Ph.D.

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

We hope you can join us for this important briefing. If you would like additional information please contact Abbie Meador in the office of Rep. John Olver at 5-5335 or Edith Thompson in the office of Rep. Wayne Gilchrest at 5-5311.

Sincerely,

John W. Olver  
Co-chair, Climate Caucus

Wayne T. Gilchrest  
Co-Chair, Climate Caucus