

CASTLE TEST DRIVES PRE-PRODUCTION CHRYSLER AND DODGE HYBRIDS ASSEMBLED IN DELAWARE -- June 20, 2008

Praises Fuel Efficiency Progress

Washington, DC - With gas prices at an all-time high, Rep. Michael N. Castle (R-DE), a long-time clean energy advocate in Congress, says promoting the development of improved fuel efficiency has never been more important. Today, to increase awareness of green initiatives and alternative energy, Rep. Castle hosted a hybrid test drive on Capitol Hill. Rep. Mike Castle invited all Members of Congress to test drive the Dodge Durango and Chrysler Aspen HEMI Hybrids, as well and learn about the technology Chrysler and Dodge are using to develop these products, an issue of growing importance as Congress tries to advance innovation in energy and fuel efficiency policy. The HEMI Hybrid vehicles that Rep. Castle test drove today use both electric and conventional power train systems to achieve up to 40% improvement in fuel efficiency.

"These hybrids, constructed at the Newark Assembly in Delaware, were so easy to drive. I think that with gas prices at an all time high, we will see more types and varieties of affordable, fuel efficient vehicles. Congress continues to play politics with the tax credits that I believe are key to bolstering the innovative technologies that American consumers are demanding."

Rep. Castle has consistently supported advancements in the research and use of various alternative forms of energy. He has voted in favor of several pieces of legislation to extend renewable energy and energy efficiency tax credits -- all of which have not yet been considered in the Senate. Yesterday he joined with over 60 Members of the U.S. House of Representatives in calling on House Leadership to work closely with the U.S. Senate leadership to find an agreeable compromise on these tax extensions. These Republicans hope that Democrat Leadership will bring a bicameral, bipartisan solution to end the current stalemate over this and other energy policies in Congress.

See attached photo of Rep. Castle test driving the new Dodge Durango HEMI Hybrid.

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