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ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS
**Select Committee on
Energy Independence and Global Warming**
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

EDWARD J. MARKEY, MASSACHUSETTS
CHAIRMAN

February 23, 2010

Dr. Arden L. Bement, Jr.
Director
National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Blvd
Arlington, VA 22230

Dear Dr. Bement:

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has been funding projects for the American Meteorological Society (AMS) with the apparent aim of persuading meteorologists to adopt partisan views on climate change. Over the past five years, the NSF has provided over 2 million dollars of taxpayer money to the AMS. Federal funding should not be used to persuade private citizens to adopt certain viewpoints.

NSF appears to have funded an AMS survey to its members ostensibly to better understand "opinions about climate change." The survey, however, closely follows a previous AMS survey in which 50% of respondents either disagreed or disagreed strongly with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) conclusion that "most of the warming since 1950 is very likely human induced." AMS hired a well-known and vocal climate change advocate to conduct its study.

AMS's NSF funded actions seem to be a transparent attempt to manipulate the opinions of weather forecasters. The efforts are a dangerous mixture of propaganda and science and, quite frankly, a waste of taxpayer's money.

I would like further clarification respecting NSF grants the AMS. Please respond to the following questions:

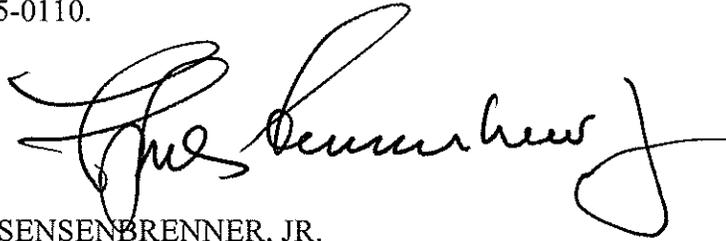
1. How many grants has the National Science Foundation awarded to the AMS?
2. How much money has been provided to the AMS and similar organizations?
3. What is the intended purpose of such funding projects and programs?

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4. What safeguards does the NSF use to ensure that federal appropriations provided are being spent in the manner in which they were intended?
5. Do you believe federal funds should be spent to influence the opinions of AMS members?

I would appreciate a response by March 12, 2010. Should you have any further questions please contact Colleen Hodgman with Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming at (202) 225-0110.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. James Senebrenner, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

F. JAMES SENE BRENNER, JR.
Ranking Member
Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming