

According to the [Post](#),

The climate-change bill that has been moving slowly through the Senate will face a stark political reality when it emerges for committee debate on Tuesday: With Democrats deeply divided on the issue, unless some Republican lawmakers risk the backlash for signing on to the legislation, there is almost no hope for passage.

Let's hope that's not true. But if it is, we at least have state regulation and EPA regulation under the Clean Air Act to keep things moving forward. Unfortunately, in modern America, Congress too often seems to be the last place to look for serious decisions about social policy.

UPDATE: By Monday morning, the headline on the story had been watered down to "Climate Bill Faces Hurdles in the Senate." In rereading the article, I was also struck by the ending:

State lawmakers who came to advise the White House last week on climate saw a different picture. "We looked for any Republican, in any state legislature in the country, who supported a bill," recalled Minnesota state Rep. Jeremy Kalin. "We found not a one."

If that's right, it's a sad commentary on the state of American politics.