



Capstone: Environmental Lobbying

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Intro: Research Question

Questions:

1. How effective is lobbying in environmental policy making?
2. Does lobbying have a negative or positive effect on policy making?

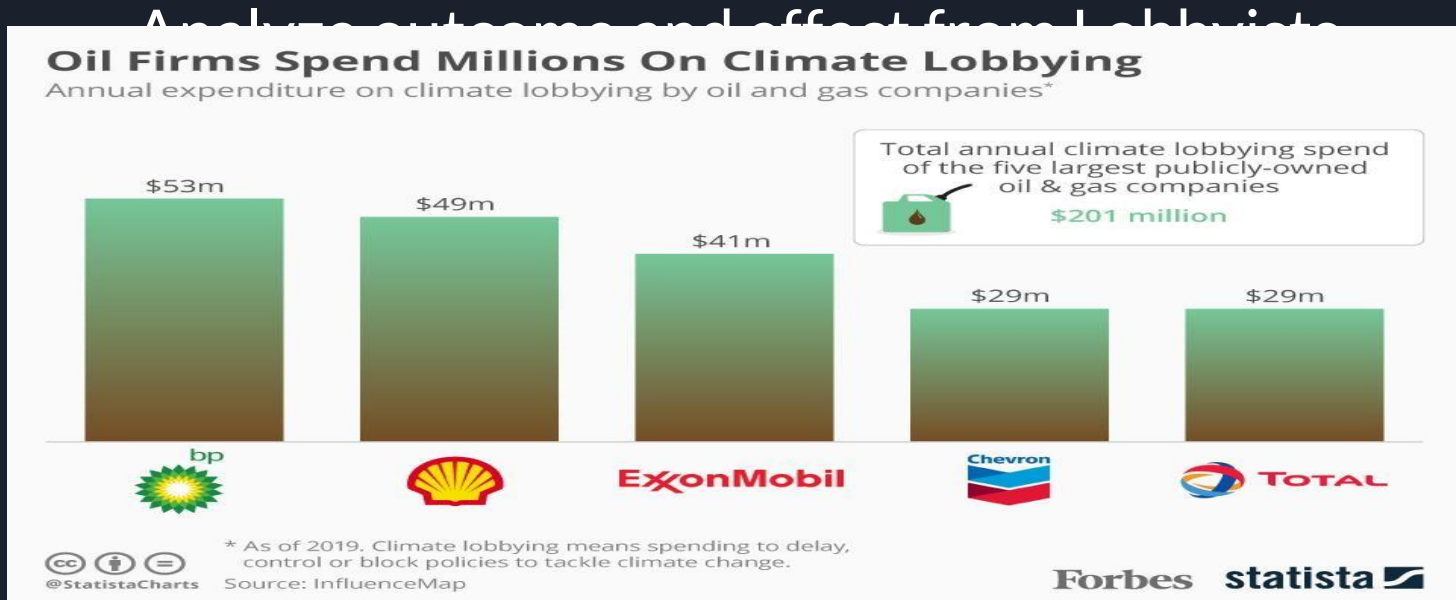


Why Is This Important?

- Entering 1900s - CO₂ emissions 662.74 million tons
- 2017 - 5.27 billion tons in the U.S alone.
- 2000-2016 over 2 billion dollars spent on environmental lobbying issues

Research Methods

- Research past environmental policies



Literature Review

Lobbying Defined - Seek to influence (politician or public official) on an issue

Economic School of Thought - Should the biggest spender deserve to win?

Political View- Democracy could be strained by lobbying



Analysis

Three Case Studies

- Clean Energy Act
- Measure 1 - Alaska Ballot
- E15 and its impact





Analysis Continued

Clean Energy Act - 700 million dollars spent by lobbyists - dropped bill passing percentage by 14%

Alaskan Ballot - 11.5 million dollars spent opposing Measure 1 - Largest Donor - ConocoPhillips (Oil Company)

E15 - 2017 RFA spent 1.9 Million Dollars on promoting 15% Ethanol



Conclusion

- Lobbying clearly has an effect on policy making
- Money is important to Lawmakers and politicians. More money, more spending options
- Negative? Or positive? Depends on point of view. Does biggest spender deserve to win? Is democracy dying by buying a win?