

No. 268 May 2009

## Weak Medicine

27 May 2009

**Compromise has enfeebled America's cap-and-trade bill. A carbon tax would be better**

*FOR those who believe that climate change is a serious problem, the decisions that America makes now are of momentous importance. In Copenhagen in December, the world will decide whether to reinvigorate or abandon its effort to avert serious climate change, and what America does between now and then will in large part determine the outcome. So the fact that Barack Obama clearly intends to turn America from being a laggard into a leader in this task is therefore encouraging.*

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This article was first published in [The Economist](#) online on 21 May 2009.

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