

Cruz's money to burn

I enjoyed Jennifer Braceras' column that tallied up the similarities between President Obama's and U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz's biographies ("Cruz bio echoes an '08 candidate's," March 25). But her final character description of Cruz doesn't match his public persona. She wrote that Cruz is "intellectually curious and hard-working."

Cruz is now chairman of the Senate subcommittee overseeing the work of NASA, which studies climate change. Now, a truly hard-working chairman would have read up on, for example, the dire consequences of rising sea levels. Also, about NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration declaring 2014 the hottest year ever globally.

An intellectually curious person would seek to grasp the data behind scientists' statements that climate change is real and caused by humans. But Cruz is a hard-core climate-change denier who does not seem to be interested in science.

As reported in the Los Angeles Times, there is another possible reason for Cruz's position: He pulled in \$1.1 million in donations from the oil and gas industry from 2011-14.

— Judy Weiss, Brookline

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