RESOLUTION NO. 38 - 2019

Moved by: 

A Resolution in support of U.S. Congressional efforts to enact the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 to address climate change in the United States.

Whereas, climate change poses a serious threat to the environment, public health and the economy of the City of Harrisburg; and

Whereas, the City of Harrisburg is committed to protecting its citizens from the effects of climate change and air pollution; and

Whereas, as a result of climate change, the Northeast region of the United States is experiencing warmer temperatures and a rise in rainfall amounts during heavy precipitation events resulting in increased flooding and storm surges, which threaten infrastructure; and

Whereas, more frequent heat waves in the Northeast region are expected to increasingly threaten human health through more heat stress and air pollution, as well as by reducing agricultural yields, which threatens the regional economy; and

Whereas, the U.S. Congress has the responsibility to act swiftly and meaningfully on the issue of climate change with legislation that should not economically burden the City of Harrisburg or its residents; and

Whereas, on January 24, 2019, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 was a bill that was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives as H.R. 763; and

Whereas, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 includes the Carbon Fee and Dividend Policy that is supported by the Citizens’ Climate Lobby to fight climate change and promote a net economic boost to residents of cities like Harrisburg; and

Whereas, the Carbon Fee and Dividend Policy supported by Citizen’s Climate Lobby is attached hereto as “Exhibit A;” and

Whereas, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 imposes a national carbon fee on producers of fossil fuels based on the amount of CO₂ the fuel will emit when burned; and

Whereas, the carbon fees collected will be deposited into a Carbon Dividend Trust Fund; and
WHEREAS, the Carbon Dividend Trust Fund will be used to make monthly dividend payments to U.S. households and to pay for administrative expenses; and

WHEREAS, the carbon fee will motivate and incentivize conservation while encouraging the production and consumption of renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar power.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HARRISBURG, that the City of Harrisburg supports the efforts of U.S. Congress to enact the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, which includes a Carbon Fee and Dividend Policy to address climate change.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, City Controller and other appropriate City officials are authorized and directed to take any steps necessary to further effectuate the purpose of this Resolution.

I second this resolution: ____________________________

Passed by City Council June 11, 2019

President of City Council

Attest

City Clerk

☑ Approved
☐ Returned to City Council with objections

I certify that this is a true and correct copy.

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[Signature]