RESOLUTION NO. 2019-25

A RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT THE
ENERGY INNOVATION AND CARBON DIVIDEND ACT OF 2019
RECITALS
Whereas, an Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a special report on the impacts
of global warming of 1.5 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ above pre-industrial levels in October of 2018 warning that global
warming is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052 if it continues to increase at the current
rate; and
Whereas, the United Nations climate science body said in a monumental climate report that we
have only 12 years left to make massive and unprecedented changes to global energy
infrastructure to limit global warming to moderate levels: and

Whereas, the United States government released its Fourth Annual Climate Assessment in November of 2018 reporting that the impacts of climate change are already being felt in communities across the country, and that more frequent and intense extreme weather and climate-related events, as well as changes in average climate conditions, are expected to continue to damage infrastructure, ecosystems, and social systems that provide essential benefits to communities; and

Whereas, conservative estimates by the world's climate scientists state that to achieve climate stabilization and avoid cataclysmic climate change, emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) must be brought to 80-95% below 1990 levels by 2050; and

Whereas, presently the environmental, health, and social costs of carbon emissions are not included in prices paid for fossil fuels, but rather these externalized costs are borne directly and

indirectly by all Americans and global citizens; and

24 Whereas, to begin to correct this market failure, Congress can enact the Energy Innovation and

Carbon Dividend Act to assess a national carbon fee on fossil fuels based on the amount of C02

the fuel will emit when burned and allocate the collected proceeds to all U.S. Households in

equal shares in the form of a monthly dividend; and

28 Whereas, for efficient administration, the fossil fuels fee can be applied once, as far upstream in

29 the economy as practical, or at the port of entry into the United States; and

Whereas, as stated in the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763, a

1	national, revenue-neutral carbon fee starting at a relatively low rate of \$15 per ton of CO2
2	equivalent emissions and resulting in equal charges per ton of CO2 equivalent emissions
3	potential in each type of fuel or greenhouse gas should be assessed to begin to lower what are
4	now dangerously high CO2 emissions. The yearly increase in carbon fees including other
5	greenhouse gases, shall be at least \$10 per ton of CO2 equivalent each year, with the Department
6	of Energy determining whether an increase larger than \$10 per ton per year is needed to achieve
7	program goals; and
8	Whereas, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763, specifies that, in
9	order to protect low and middle income citizens from the economic impact of rising prices due to
10	the carbon fee, equal monthly per-person dividend payments shall be made to all American
11	households (1/2 payment per child under 19 years old) each month from the fossil fuel fees
12	collected. The total value of all monthly dividend payments shall represent 100% of the net
13	carbon fees collected per month; and
14	Whereas, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763, encourages
15	market-driven innovation of clean energy technologies and market efficiencies which will reduce
16	harmful pollution and leave a healthier, more stable, and more prosperous nation for future
17	generations; and
18	Whereas, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763, will, after 12
19	years, lead to a decrease in America's C02 emissions of 40 percent and an increase in national
20	employment of 2.1 million jobs; and
21	Whereas, border adjustments - carbon content-based tariffs on products imported from countries
22	without comparable carbon pricing, and refunds to our exporters of carbon fees paid - can
23	maintain the competitiveness of U.S. businesses in global markets; and
24	Whereas, a national carbon fee can be implemented quickly and efficiently, and will respond to
25	the urgency of the climate crisis because the federal government already has in place
26	mechanisms, such as the Internal Revenue Service, needed to implement and enforce the fee, and
27	already collects fees from fossil fuel producers and importers; and
28	Whereas, a national revenue-neutral carbon fee would make the United States a leader in
29	mitigating climate change and in the clean energy technologies of the 21st century and would
30	provide incentive to other countries to enact similar carbon fees, reducing global C02 emissions

without the need for complex international agreements.
NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, OREGON,
RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:
Section 1. The City Council of the City of Ashland, Oregon, urges the United States Congress to
enact without delay the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763.
Section 2. The City Administrator, no later than thirty (30) days after passage of this Resolution
No. 2019-25, shall transmit, or cause to be transmitted, copies of this resolution to the President
and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the
Majority Leader of the Senate, to each U.S. Senator and Representative from the State of Oregon
in the Congress of the United States, and to nearby city and county governments urging that they
pass similar resolutions.
Section 3. This resolution is effective upon adoption.
This resolution was duly PASSED and ADOPTED this to day of August, 2019, and takes
effect upon signing by the Mayor.
4 Hall
Melissa Huhtala, City Recorder
SIGNED and APPROVED this of day of 2019.
O D At Land
John Jowan
John Stromberg, Mayor
Reviewed as to form:
Naw H. Johng
David Lohman, City Attorney

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