

Resolution 11-A-19

**RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT THE ENERGY INNOVATION AND CARBON DIVIDEND ACT OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Blacksburg, Virginia, has been a leader in promoting local efforts to reduce climate-warming gas emissions and ensure a stable climate for future generations;

**WHEREAS**, the Town and its citizens created the Blacksburg Climate Action Plan; and the Town has established policies to reduce energy consumption for buildings and operations;

**WHEREAS**, without an effective national policy for reducing climate-warming gas emissions, local efforts will not be enough; the scale of the climate crisis requires the combined efforts of local, state, national, and international entities for actions to achieve emission reductions;

**WHEREAS**, the United States' Fourth Annual Climate Assessment reports impacts of climate change are being felt across the country; and an Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change special report warns that climate change is likely to become increasingly harmful unless climate-warming gas emissions are greatly reduced;

**WHEREAS**, environmental, health, and social costs of such emissions are not included in current prices paid for fossil fuels, but rather these externalized costs are borne by all Americans;

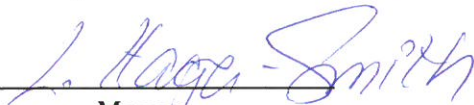
**WHEREAS**, Congress can enact a carbon fee and dividend policy to assess a national steadily-rising fee on carbon and other greenhouse gases and to distribute the collected proceeds to all U.S. households, allocating them equally among legal residents;

**WHEREAS**, a carbon fee and dividend policy encourages market-driven innovation and market efficiencies to reduce climate-altering pollution and leave a healthier, more stable, and more prosperous nation for future generations;

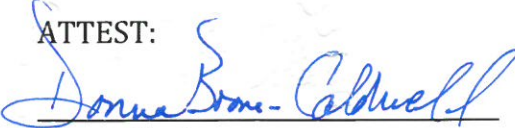
**WHEREAS**, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 would enact a carbon fee and dividend policy, and is projected to reduce America's climate-warming emissions by nearly half over 12 years while stimulating economic activity and employment; and

**WHEREAS**, a national revenue-neutral carbon fee would make the United States a leader in mitigating climate change and in clean energy technologies and would provide incentive to other nations to reduce climate-warming gas emissions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Blacksburg urges the United States Congress to enact without delay the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act or similar federal carbon fee and dividend legislation to reduce the harmful impacts of climate change.

  
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Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Town Clerk

Date of Adoption: November 12, 2019