

Resolution No. 19-282

**Resolution urging the United States Congress to enact the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019**

Whereas, the Iowa City City Council passed Resolution No. 17-360 calling on the United States Congress to Pass a Revenue Neutral Carbon Fee and Dividend Program; and

Whereas, that bipartisan Congressional bill was not passed and has been reintroduced in the House of Representatives as a new bipartisan bill, Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, H.R. 763; and

Whereas, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued a special report on the impacts of global warming in October 2018 and the need to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions well before 2030 to hold warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius; and

Whereas, due to the serious nature of this issue, the City Council declared a state of climate crisis August 6, 2019, given that the crisis poses an urgent threat to the well-being of Iowa City, its inhabitants and its environment; and

Whereas, Iowa City on that date also adopted the IPCC targets of a 45% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030 and reaching net-zero by 2050; and

Whereas, the City issued a report on Accelerating Iowa City's Climate Actions and plans to implement these actions to reach these new carbon reduction targets; and

Whereas, efforts to reach these goals would be greatly enhanced by compatible national legislation that creates financial disincentives for continued dependence on fossil fuels; and

Whereas, presently the environmental, health, and social costs of carbon pollution is not included in prices paid for fossil fuels, but borne directly or indirectly by all Americans and global citizens; and

Whereas, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763, will, after 12 years lead to a decrease in America's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 40 percent and increase in national employment of 2.1 million jobs; and

Whereas, money collected from the proposed carbon fee would be allocated in equal shares every month to the American people, and due to this equitable distribution, low-income populations, often limited in their ability to absorb economic impacts of climate change, will benefit from the receipt of a greater proportion of their income; and

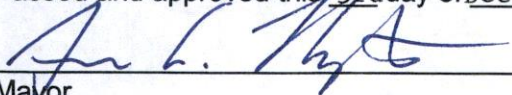
Whereas, a national carbon fee can be implemented quickly and efficiently, and will respond to the urgency of the climate crisis because the federal government already has in place mechanisms needed to implement and enforce the fee and already collects fees from fossil fuel producers and importers; and

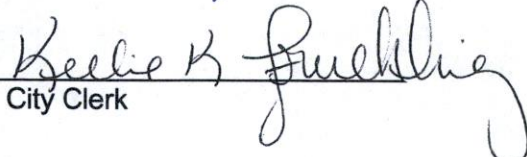
Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Iowa City:

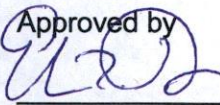
The City Council of the City of Iowa City urges the United States Congress to enact without delay the **Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763**; and

Be it further resolved that the City Clerk of the Council will transmit copies of the 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, and to our representatives in Washington: Senator Charles Grassley, Senator Joni Ernst and Congressman David Loebsack, and complete online commitment

Passed and approved this 31 day of December 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved by  11-27-19  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney's Office

Resolution No. 19-282  
Page 3

It was moved by Mims and seconded by Salih the  
Resolution be adopted, and upon roll call there were:

AYES:	NAYS:	ABSENT:	
<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	Cole
<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	Mims
<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	Salih
<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	Taylor
<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	Teague
<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	Thomas
<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	Throgmorton