

**TOWN OF PLATTSBURGH
TOWN BOARD MONTHLY MEETING
November 7, 2019**

Resolution 019-186

**IN SUPPORT OF THE ENERGY INNOVATION AND
CARBON DIVIDEND ACT OF 2019 (H.R. 763)**

WHEREAS, The Members of the Board of the Town of Plattsburgh are committed to protecting Town residents from the destabilized weather patterns, extreme weather events and adverse health effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, there is scientific consensus regarding the reality of climate change and the connection between human activity, especially the combustion of fossil fuels that create greenhouse gases, and warming of the planet; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has the responsibility to act swiftly and effectively on the issue of climate change; and

WHEREAS, destabilized weather patterns, extreme weather events and other serious impacts are driven by greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels, and a major shift away from such carbon fuels is a cornerstone to any meaningful response;¹ · ²and

WHEREAS, a steadily increasing fee or tax on fossil fuels at the point of their entry into the economy (the well, mine, or point of importation) would be a straightforward way to make effective use of free market mechanisms to promote the transition to greater energy conservation and renewable sources of energy ³; and

WHEREAS, a rebate of all of the revenue generated by the fee to all United States Residents, in equal shares, would mitigate the impact of rising energy prices for all households and generate many new clean energy jobs, while potentially improving the overall economy⁴;

¹ Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "Carbon tax needed to cut fossil fuel consumption: Will we ever stop using fossil fuels? Not without a carbon tax, suggests a study." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 24 February 2016. <www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/02/160224151006.htm>.

1. ² Thomas Covert, Michael Greenstone, Christopher R. Knittel. **Will We Ever Stop Using Fossil Fuels?†**. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 2016; 30 (1): 117 DOI: [10.1257/jep.30.1.117](https://doi.org/10.1257/jep.30.1.117)

³ <https://www.alternet.org/2019/03/opportunity-costs-heres-how-to-make-carbon-taxing-become-a-positive-sum-game/#.Xlhh6PWdmao.facebook>

⁴ <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/REMI-carbon-tax-report-62141.df>

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Members of the Board of the Town of Plattsburgh call on our representatives in the United States Congress to address climate change by adopting as one important measure, among others, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (EICDA; H.R. 763) as the foundation for sound, effective, National Policy.

Motion: Thomas E. Wood

Seconded by: Barbara E. Hebert

Discussion: Yes

Roll Call:

Yes No Absent Carried Tabled

x

Thomas E. Wood

x

Meg E. LeFevre

x

Barbara E. Hebert

x

Charles A. Kostyk

x

Michael S. Cashman

x

