RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA, as follows:

WHEREAS, increases in global average temperatures, the number and intensity of extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and the melting of global and Arctic ice indicate that the global climate is changing; and

WHEREAS, climate change is a legitimate and anthropogenic concern and there is overwhelming scientific consensus that this is true; and

WHEREAS, climate change is caused by a number of factors and one of the most significant and controllable of these is the releasing of carbon dioxide gas into the atmosphere during the combustion of fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas; and

WHEREAS, recent reports by the UN’s International panel on Climate Change and the U.S. government indicate that to avoid the worst potential impacts of climate change, urgent action is needed to reduce carbon emissions, and

WHEREAS, the solution to climate change is a transition away from a fossil fuel-based U.S. economy to a renewable energy-based U.S. economy; and

WHEREAS, in order to reduce carbon emissions most effectively and efficiently, leading economists (including four past chairs of the Federal Reserve Board, 27 Nobel Laureates, and 15 past chairs of the Council of Economic Advisors) recommend a gradually increasing carbon tax on fossil fuels, with the proceeds thereof returned to American households as dividends, and with a border adjustment system to protect the competitiveness of American firms both individually and internationally; and

WHEREAS, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, introduced in the current Congress as H.R. 763, meets all of those criteria and has bipartisan support; and

WHEREAS, competent studies have projected that if such legislation is enacted, it will result in a substantial reduction in carbon emissions as well as increases in GDP and employment; and that the dividends received by most low and moderate-income households will be more than enough to offset price increases due to the carbon fee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA, that it urges Congress to support H.R. 763, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act and/or other legislation intended to reduce the harmful impacts of climate change, and hereby directs the City Clerk to send copies of this resolution to Governor Kay Ivey, other State officials and Federal legislators.

ADOPTED this 4TH day of FEBRUARY, 2020.
CITY COUNCIL

APPROVED this 14TH day of FEBRUARY, 2020.

MAYOR

ADOPTED & APPROVED this 4TH day of FEBRUARY, 2020.

CITY CLERK