PERTAINING TO SUPPORT FOR THE ENERGY INNOVATION AND CARBON DIVIDEND ACT - H.R. 763

WHEREAS, The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe with a Constitution enacted pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, 25 U.S.C §475; and

WHEREAS, The Tribal Council is the recognized certified local government of the Bad River Tribe, vested with the power and authority to advocate on behalf of its constituents for the improvement of health, education, safety, and general welfare; and

WHEREAS, Prudent stewardship of the economy and the environment is a critical responsibility in order to ensure that the resources of the Tribe and its natural environment are available for future generations; and

WHEREAS, If left unaddressed, the consequences of a changing climate, including severe weather events, have the potential to increasingly adversely impact Tribal communities by reducing productivity of the land and the availability of water, harming economic sectors such as farming and tourism and saddling future generations with economic and environmental burdens that will further add to challenges of living on the reservation; and

WHEREAS, The urgently needed transition from fossil fuels can be accomplished effectively with a national market-based policy, namely a revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend; and

WHEREAS, The bipartisan Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 (H.R. 763) is a revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend bill introduced in the 116th Congress; and

WHEREAS, The Act will reduce fossil fuel emissions by at least 40% in 12 years and 90% by 2050 which is the level called for by the International Panel on Climate Change; and

WHEREAS, The Dividend will protect vulnerable Americans from rising energy costs as it stimulates the 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 nationally 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 employments; 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: That the Bad River Tribal Council hereby supports and urges the United States Congress to pass Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act – H.R. 763 without delay; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that copies of this resolution shall be distributed to: Governor Tony Evers, Senator Ron Johnson, Senator Tammy Baldwin, State Senator Janet Bewley, State Representative Beth Meyers; and all other Wisconsin Tribes.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of 7 members, of whom 7, constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting duly called, noticed, and held on the 26th day of February, 2020, that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 6 for, 0 against and 0 abstaining.

Jay McFee, Tribal Secretary