

SUBMITTED BY: Councilor Hunter Williams

RECOMMENDED BY: Councilors Crystal N. Smitherman and Hunter Williams

**RESOLUTION NO. 561-20**

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

**WHEREAS**, the City of Birmingham has long been a steward of the public's safety, health and welfare within the corporate limits, police, and planning jurisdictions of its communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the overwhelming weight of scientific evidence indicates that greenhouse gas emissions from human activities, including the burning of fossil fuels, are causing rising global temperatures;

**WHEREAS**, further increases in global temperature pose imminent and substantial dangers to human health, the natural environment, the economy, and an unacceptable level of risk to the residents of Birmingham;

**WHEREAS**, to decrease the City of Birmingham's reliance on fossil fuels, on March 14, 2018, Mayor Randall Woodfin signed the Alabama Mayors for 100% Sustainable Energy Pledge;

**WHEREAS**, gradually increasing carbon fees on greenhouse gas emissions are an efficient, transparent, and enforceable market-based mechanism to incentivize an effective and fair transition to an economy powered by renewable energy;

**WHEREAS**, a federal, revenue-neutral carbon tax on fossil fuels would reflect their actual net costs to our city and its citizens;

**WHEREAS**, legislation to address climate change should not economically burden Birmingham or its residents, and such carbon fee revenue should be returned to citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, a bipartisan group of members of Congress has introduced the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 (H.R. 763) in the United States House of Representatives, which legislation addresses greenhouse gas emissions through the mechanisms described above.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA:**

That the City Council of the City of Birmingham, Alabama hereby expresses its support of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 (H.R. 763) and any other similar federally mandated, national, revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend legislation with all revenues refunded to citizens, and requests that the United States Congress enact such legislation to address climate change.

Adopted by the Council March 17, 2020 and Approved by the Mayor March 25, 2020



A CERTIFIED COPY  
Lee Frazier, City Clerk  
Birmingham, AL  
*Lee Frazier*