

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-40

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLAGSTAFF CITY COUNCIL URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION

RECITALS:

WHEREAS the City of Flagstaff's mission is to protect and enhance the quality of life of its citizens; and

WHEREAS the 2012 voter approved Flagstaff Regional Plan 2030 asserts that environmental health is inherent to individual and community health; and

WHEREAS prudent, fact-based stewardship of the economy and the environment is a critical responsibility in order to ensure that the resources of the City and its natural environment are available for future generations; and

WHEREAS there have been marked increases in extreme weather events impacting northern Arizona including drought, wildfires, wind and flooding, which are expected to further worsen; and

WHEREAS, if left unaddressed, the consequences of a changing climate, including severe weather events, have the potential to adversely impact all Flagstaff residents, harming productivity in key economic sectors such as construction, ranching, and tourism, saddling future generations with costly economic and environmental burdens, and imposing additional costs on City and County budgets that will further add to fiscal challenges; and

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

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2017, the Flagstaff City Council passed and adopted Resolution 2017-31, which urged the United States Congress to enact carbon fee and dividend legislation; and

WHEREAS, in November 2018, the Flagstaff City Council approved a community-wide Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, which calls for a community-wide reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, resiliency planning, and prioritizing those most impacted by climate change; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility and duty of the City Council to advocate for state and national policies that will protect all Flagstaff residents from events that could negatively impact their health, welfare, and safety, and

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2019, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 (H.R. 763) was introduced in the United States House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, the City council wishes to renew its support for carbon fee and dividend legislation and urge Congress to pass H.R. 763.

ENACTMENTS:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the Council strongly urges the U.S. Congress to enact HR 763, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act legislation, which:


- A. Levies an annually increasing fee on carbon dioxide (or greenhouse gas equivalent) emissions produced by fossil fuels at the point of production and importation;
- B. Returns to Americans on an equitable basis all of the net revenues generated from the fee; and
- C. Incorporates suitable carbon-content-based fees for imports from, and rebates for, exports to nations that have not taken an action like this.

SECTION 2. that the City Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the delegation in the U.S. Congress representing Flagstaff within 30 days of enactment.


PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Flagstaff this 23rd day of June, 2020.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


CITY ATTORNEY