

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON, CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, CALLING ON THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE BY PASSING THE ENERGY INNOVATION AND CARBON DIVIDEND ACT.

WHEREAS, climate change poses a threat to Ferguson Township and its citizens in terms of the economy, public health, and environment as the recently issued Fourth National Climate Assessment makes clear; and

WHEREAS, as a result of climate change, the northeast United States is experiencing warming temperatures and a large increase in the amount of rainfall measured during heavy precipitation events; and

WHEREAS, more frequent heavy rains are expected to increase flooding and storm surge, threatening infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, as temperatures rise, agriculture will likely face reduced yields, potentially damaging livelihoods and the regional economy; and

WHEREAS, climate scientists are clear that to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, society must dramatically reduce its carbon dioxide emissions;

WHEREAS, presently the environmental, health, and social costs of carbon emissions are not included in prices paid for fossil fuels, but rather these externalized costs are borne directly and indirectly by all Americans and global citizens;

WHEREAS, a price on carbon will begin to correct this market failure, while protecting low- and middle-income households by returning all proceeds in the form of a carbon dividend;

WHEREAS, a price on carbon will improve public health and save lives by decreasing air pollution;

WHEREAS, Ferguson Township resolved in 2017 to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050;

WHEREAS, a price on carbon will spur new innovations and bring new technologies into financial reach, making it easier for Ferguson Township to implement emissions reduction goals;

WHEREAS, Ferguson Township resolved in 2017 to engage other stakeholders in a dialogue to develop courses of action to reduce the impact of human-induced climate change to Pennsylvania and people and places around the world;

WHEREAS, Congress has the responsibility to act swiftly and meaningfully to address the issue of climate change;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Ferguson

Township, endorses the policies set forth in H.R. 763, the "Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act" as introduced into the House of Representatives on January 24, 2019, and calls on Congress to pass this legislation.

RESOLVED, this 19th day of October 2020.

TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

By: 

Laura Dininni, Vice Chairwoman
Board of Supervisors

[S E A L]

ATTEST:

By: 

David Pribulka, Secretary