Be it decided by the Assembly of Student Representatives, having been brought to the floor by a vote of two-thirds (2/3rds).

RESOLUTION

Support of H.R 763 - The Energy Innovation Carbon Dividend Act (EICDA)

Nature of the Situation:

H.R.763 - The Energy Innovation Carbon Dividend Act (EICDA) was introduced in the US House of Representatives in January of 2019. The legislation was referred to the Subcommittee on Energy Committee on Energy and Commerce. The bill’s purpose is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by placing an incremental fee on the source of the carbon-emitting fossil fuel. With this bill, natural gas and fossil fuel usage would be taxed starting at a rate of $15 per metric ton the first year, increasing by $10 per metric ton annually, until either carbon emissions reach 10% of 2016 levels or the divided falls below -$20.¹ EICDA is a revenue-neutral and market-based bill that returns the revenues generated from the fee to American residents in the form of dividends in order to subsidize costs to residents on their carbon footprint. All fees generated by the dividend would be redistributed to American citizens and have no stipulation on spending.

A research report by Duquesne University’s Palumbo-Donahue School of Business details that an estimated 61% of PA households would experience a net financial benefit as a result of a carbon dividend return. Specifically, 77% of PA family households with an income below $35,000-$95,000 would experience a net average benefit of $126 per year from the tax. 68% of PA single occupant households with an income of $55,000-$95,000 would experience an average net loss of $172 per year. Furthermore, the EICDA would create clean energy jobs as well assist

in reinvigorating service-providing industries, resulting in an approximate 77,000 additional jobs
by 2025 and 97,000 jobs by 2035.\textsuperscript{2}

The implementation of a carbon tax and dividend system is a key strategy to reducing the
national and global carbon emissions through economic forces and incentivizing private and
public investment into the country’s energy infrastructure. A carbon tax would reduce US
emissions, have a modest effect on the Earth’s climate\textsuperscript{3}, and signal the urgency of climate
change to the rest of the world. Climate change is a pressing issue with negative economic,
geographical, and social implications for the current generation, as well as future generations of
Penn State students. This past summer, as the Penn State delegate, President McKay signed onto
the Students For Carbon Dividends Statement of Student Government Leaders. The statement,
being the largest statement of Student Government Leaders in United States history, was
organized “to endorse the breakthrough, bipartisan climate solution known as carbon
dividends.”\textsuperscript{4}

\textbf{Recommended Course of Action:}

The University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) on behalf of the Penn State
undergraduate student body, hereby supports H.R.763 - The Energy Innovation Carbon Dividend
Act (EICDA) and urges Federal Legislators to vote in support of its passage. The UPUA will
continue to support the renumbering of this bill into the next congressional session.

The UPUA in collaboration with the Department of Outreach and the Governmental Affairs
Committee, are hereby charged with the formation and execution of a SoftEdge advocacy
campaign in support of H.R. 763 to all PA Congressional House Legislators [APPENDIX A].

The UPUA Department of Outreach is charged with disseminating the SoftEdge Campaign to
other PA institutions of higher education and disseminating information through the relevant
channels.

\textsuperscript{2} https://duquesnesmba.files.wordpress.com/2020/01/eicda-updated-1.10.2020.pdf
\textsuperscript{3} https://www.ebo.gov/publication/44223
\textsuperscript{4} https://www.e4c.org/statement
Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Risser  
At-Large Representative  
Vice Chair of Governmental Affairs

Tom Dougherty III  
At-Large Representative  
Chair of Governmental Affairs

Cameron McColgan  
At-Large Representative

Steven Zhang  
At-Large Representative  
Speaker of the Assembly

Assembly Vote: 33/2/1

Speaker of the Assembly

President of the Student Body

The University Park Undergraduate Association