## OFFERED BY COUNCILOR LYDIA EDWARDS AND MATT O'MALLEY, Flaherty,

Breadon, Arroyo, Baker, Bok, Campbell, Essaibi-George, Flynn, Mejia and Wu



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

A RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT THE ENERGY INNOVATION AND CABRON DIVIDEND ACT.

- WHEREAS, The United Nations climate science body declared in a monumental climate report that we have only until 2030 to make massive and unprecedented changes to global energy infrastructure to limit global warming to moderate levels; and
- WHEREAS, The impacts of climate change are already being felt in communities across the country, and that more frequent and intense extreme weather and climate-related events, as well as changes in average climate conditions, are expected to continue to damage infrastructure, ecosystems, and social systems that provide essential benefits to communities; and
- **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; and
- WHEREAS, To begin to correct this market failure, Congress can enact H.R. 2307, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, to assess a national carbon fee on fossil fuels based on the amount of CO2 the fuel will emit when burned and allocate the collected proceeds to all U.S. Households in equal per-capita shares in the form of a monthly dividend; and
- WHEREAS, A national, revenue-neutral carbon fee starting at a relatively low cost per ton of CO2 equivalent emissions and rising steadily each year, and resulting in equal charges per ton of CO2 equivalent emissions potential in each type of fuel or greenhouse gas should be assessed to begin to lower what are now dangerously high CO2 emissions; and
- WHEREAS, Equal monthly per-person dividend payments shall be made to all American households each month from the fossil fuel fees collected. The total value of all monthly dividend payments shall represent 100% of the net carbon fees collected per month; and
- WHEREAS, The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, H.R. 2307, places the financial burden upon those who contribute the most emissions, and wealthier households on average have much higher carbon footprints, inherently relieving the most

- economically vulnerable households from bearing the burden for decarbonizing the economy; and
- WHEREAS, 61 percent of households and 68 percent of individuals in the U.S. will receive more in monthly carbon dividends to offset their increased costs resulting from carbon fees.; and
- **WHEREAS,** the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act encourages market-driven innovation of clean energy technologies and market efficiencies which will reduce harmful pollution and leave a healthier, more stable, and more prosperous nation for future generations; and
- WHEREAS, Border Adjustments, carbon content-based levies on products imported from countries without comparable carbon pricing, and refunds to our exporters of carbon fees paid can maintain the competitiveness of U.S. businesses in global markets; and
- WHEREAS, A national revenue-neutral carbon fee would make the United States a leader in mitigating climate change and in the clean energy technologies of the 21st century and would provide incentive to other countries to enact similar carbon fees, reducing global CO2 emissions without the need for complex international agreements; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT
- **RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council urges the United States Congress to enact without further delay the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividen Act; **AND BE IT FURTHER**
- **RESOLVED:** That the City Clerk, no later than 30 days after passage of this Resolution, shall transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each U.S. Senator and Representative from the State of Massachusetts in the Congress of the United States

Filed on: May 12, 2021

In City Council May 12, 2021. Adopted; yeas 12.

Attest: Mauseon Leanay

Maureen Feeney City Clerk