

BOROUGH OF CARLISLE  
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

**RESOLUTION NO. 03-09-2017-02**

**A Resolution in Support of Federal Congressional Action to Address Climate Change,  
the Adverse Health Impacts by the Burning of Fossil Fuels, and  
Support Economic Stimulation by Promoting Renewable Energy**

**WHEREAS**, climate change poses a serious threat to the Borough of Carlisle in terms of the economy, public health, and the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, air pollution caused by burning fossil fuels leads to increased risk of cardiovascular and respiratory illness, and possibly cancer; and

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

**WHEREAS**, more frequent heat waves in the Northeast are expected to increasingly threaten human health through more heat stress and air pollution; and

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

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

**WHEREAS**, legislation addressing climate change should not economically burden Carlisle or its residents; 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 a national carbon tax on fossil fuels, based on the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> the fuel will emit when burned; and

**WHEREAS**, for efficient administration, fossil fuels can be taxed once, as far upstream in the economy as practical, or at the port of entry into the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, a national, revenue-neutral carbon tax starting at a relatively low rate and increasing steadily over future years is a market-based solution that would minimally disrupt the economy while sending a clear and predictable price signal to businesses to develop and use non-carbon-based energy resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Citizens' Climate Education Corporation (CCEC) contracted a third party, Regional Economic Modeling, Inc. (REMI) to do a nation-wide macroeconomic study on the impact of a revenue-neutral carbon tax; and

**WHEREAS**, REMI's study predicted that, after 10 years, a revenue-neutral carbon tax would lead to a decrease in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 33 percent, an increase in national employment of 2.1 million jobs, and an average monthly dividend for a family of four of \$288; and

**WHEREAS**, border adjustments (carbon content-based tariffs on products imported from countries without comparable carbon pricing, and refunds to our exporters of carbon taxes paid) can maintain the competitiveness of U.S. businesses in global markets; and

**WHEREAS**, a national carbon tax can be implemented quickly and efficiently, and respond to the urgency of the climate crisis, because the federal government already has in place mechanisms, such as the Internal Revenue Service, needed to implement and enforce the tax, and already collects taxes from fossil fuel producers and importers; and

**WHEREAS**, a national carbon tax would make the United States a leader in mitigating climate change and in the clean energy technologies of the 21st Century, and would incentivize other countries to enact similar carbon taxes, reducing global CO2 emissions without the need for complex international agreements.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** we, the Borough Council of Carlisle, on behalf of the residents of Carlisle, calls on the United States Congress to address climate change and explore a Carbon Fee and Dividend as a sound, effective policy.

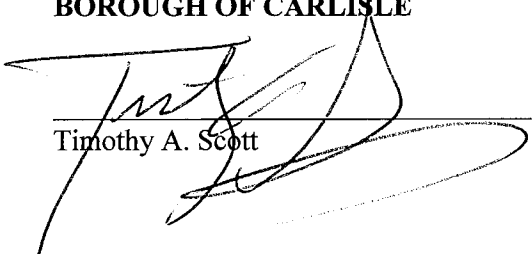
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the tax should be collected once, as far upstream in the economy as practical, or at the port of entry into the United States; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all tax revenue should be returned to households to protect low and middle income Americans from the impact of rising prices due to the tax; and,

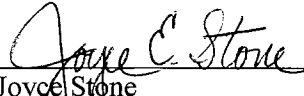
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the international competitiveness of U.S. businesses should be protected by using carbon content-based border tariffs and tax refunds.

**Adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March 2017**

**MAYOR OF THE:  
BOROUGH OF CARLISLE**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Timothy A. Scott

**ATTEST:**

  
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Joyce Stone  
Borough Secretary