

RESOLUTION URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PASS LEGISLATION IN SUPPORT OF A NATIONAL REVENUE-NEUTRAL CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND IN ORDER TO HELP SLOW CLIMATE CHANGE

WHEREAS, the sustainability and viability of a clean environment is critical for the safety and well-being of our society; and

WHEREAS, citizens have become concerned with the ramifications of poor management of the environment and its impacts now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, an effective plan to address climate change should provide a measurable benefit to improving the environment while not detracting from economic viability or opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has acknowledged that Climate Change is an important matter that needs to be considered and addressed; and

WHEREAS, there is general scientific agreement that climate change is occurring and is at least partially the result of human activity, including but not limited to, the use of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, continuing to use fossil fuels at the current rates will increase the long term damage of climate change which will become more and more difficult and expensive to reverse and even to slow;

WHEREAS, a Federal, Revenue Neutral Carbon Tax on fossil fuels would reflect their net real costs to our nation and its citizens;

WHEREAS, such carbon tax revenue should be returned to citizens to mitigate its economic impact; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, that this Common Council of the City of Syracuse hereby expresses its support of a federally mandated, national revenue – neutral carbon tax with all revenues refunded to the citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Common Council of the City of Syracuse, New York urges Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, and Congressman John Katko to take the necessary actions to examine the feasibility of such carbon tax and dividend to citizens and enact such a program to help slow climate change; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit copies of this Resolution to U.S. Senators Schumer and Gillibrand, and U.S. Representative John Katko.