

## RESOLUTION

**RE: REQUESTING CONGRESS ENACT A REVENUE-NEUTRAL FEE ON CARBON IN FOSSIL FUELS**

**WHEREAS**, nearly all climate scientists agree that the Earth is warming rapidly, which is causing the climate to change, and that these negative effects on the Earth's natural systems and human civilization are already being seen and measured; and

**WHEREAS**, the major contributor to carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) increase is human activity, especially through the combustion of fossil fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued use of fossil fuels is being supported by a market failure whereby the costs of carbon emissions are not included in the price of fossil fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, changing climate has an impact on Dane County's natural resources and has been identified in the Wisconsin Division of Emergency Management's Hazard Mitigation Plan ("In the past 50 years, average statewide temperatures have increased by about 1.1°F. It is also likely that the state will see more extreme weather events." section 4.4); and

**WHEREAS**, 25 Wisconsin Counties have already incorporated climate change into their approved Hazard Mitigation Plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the urgent need to transition away from fossil fuels can best be accomplished with a market-based program, namely a revenue-neutral carbon fee on fossil fuel producers, with corresponding rebates or dividends in equal amounts to American households to offset increased energy costs; and

**WHEREAS**, using a revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend to reduce carbon emissions would have the following benefits:

1. The carbon fee would provide an incentive for the development and use of energy efficiency and low carbon energy sources.
2. The transition to low-carbon energy sources would provide a range of additional benefits including enhanced public health, job creation and strengthening of the U.S. economy, increased energy security, and increased local energy development in rural areas.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Dane County Board of Supervisors strongly urges the United States Congress to pass legislation that levies an annually increasing revenue-neutral fee on the carbon in fossil fuels at the point of production or importation that would be sufficient to:

- a. Encourage individuals and businesses to produce and use less fossil fuel;
- b. Make the transition from fossil fuels less onerous to consumers and to the economy by returning to Americans on an equal basis all of the revenues gained from the fee;
- c. Reduce U.S. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to 10% of 1990 levels by 2050;
- d. Encourage similar actions by other nations trading with the United States, by suitable carbon-content-based fees for imports, and rebates for exports, to nations that have not taken such actions.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Dane County Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Dane County Congressional delegation to include Senator Ron Johnson, Senator Tammy Baldwin and Representative Mark Pocan.

rd of County Board & County Executive Action

er 249 Date Adopted 11-1-18

tion 294 Ordinance \_\_\_\_\_

n by \_\_\_\_\_ Zoning Ordinance \_\_\_\_\_

ification Requesting Congress enact a  
one-Neatral fee on carbon in  
oil fuels  
ding Exec Committee action on 11-1-18

E ON ADOPTION:  Yes  No  Absent

Voice Vote Date Signed 11-1-18

y Clerk Scott McDowell

NTY EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE: Date Received 11-2-18

y Executive [Signature]

NTY EXECUTIVE'S ACTION:

Approve  Veto Date 11-5-18

y Executive [Signature]

NTY CLERK'S OFFICE: Date Returned 11-2-18

y Clerk [Signature]

IFICATION OF PUBLICATION: Date \_\_\_\_\_

y Clerk \_\_\_\_\_



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File #: 2018 RES-294 Version: 1 Name:

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File created: 10/19/2018 In control: [Executive Committee](#)

On agenda: Final action: 11/2/2018

Title: REQUESTING CONGRESS ENACT A REVENUE-NEUTRAL FEE ON CARBON IN FOSSIL FUELS

Sponsors: [PATRICK MILES, YOGESH CHAWLA](#)

Attachments: 1. [2018 RES-294](#), 2. [Carbon Fee and Dividend - 1 pg overview](#)

- History (5)
- Text

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result	Action Details	Meeting Details	Video
11/2/2018	1	County Executive	signed		<a href="#">Action details</a>	<a href="#">Meeting details</a>	Not available
11/1/2018	1	County Board	adopted	Pass	<a href="#">Action details</a>	<a href="#">Meeting details</a>	<a href="#">Video</a>
10/25/2018	1	Environment, Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee	recommended for approval	Pass	<a href="#">Action details</a>	<a href="#">Meeting details</a>	Not available
10/23/2018	1	County Board	referred		<a href="#">Action details</a>	<a href="#">Meeting details</a>	Not available
10/23/2018	1	County Board	referred		<a href="#">Action details</a>	<a href="#">Meeting details</a>	Not available