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Members of Congress:

Climate Change has begun to have negative effects on the Country and on the World. The political debate as to whether it is man-made or part of a larger natural cycle is moot: if we do not keep the carbon dioxide levels from continuing their upward trend, the negative effects are only going to get worse. We cannot do anything about natural climate cycles, but we can do something about man-made contributions to the problem.

Once we agree on this in principle, the next question becomes what to do about it. Most solutions to date have been objectionable to one side of the aisle or the other. Fortunately, there are some people working in a bipartisan manner to try to create legislation that is acceptable to both sides of the aisle.

The Carbon Fee and Dividend is one such proposal. It promotes an escalating fee be placed on fossil fuels at the source and then taking the revenues generated by the fees and paying out a dividend to all citizens in the United States. This is a way to use the free market economy to help drive better energy savings by raising the cost of fossil fuels so that alternative energies can compete without creating complex "give away" programs for those alternative energies that can be abused or mishandled. Furthermore, because the revenues are paid back to the citizens, it helps offset those higher fuel costs while still providing market pressure for the reduced use of fuels.

We, the undersigned, believe Congress needs to do something now to help reduce the emissions and thus help reduce the rate and/or severity of climate change. We believe the Carbon Fee and Dividend is one such possible solution.

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