

Prepared by: Eleanor Dilkes, City Attorney, 410 E Washington St Iowa City IA 52240 356-5030

RESOLUTION NO. 17-360

Resolution calling on the United States Congress to Pass a Revenue
Neutral Carbon Fee and Dividend Program

Whereas, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has stated that “warming of the climate is unequivocal” and it is “extremely likely that human influence has been the dominant cause of the warming since the mid-20th century” with “atmospheric concentrations of CO₂, Methane and Nitrous Oxide that are unprecedented in at least the last 800,000 years”; and

Whereas, conservative estimates by the world’s climate scientists state that to achieve climate stabilization and avoid cataclysmic climate change emissions of greenhouse gases must be brought to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050; and

Whereas, Iowa City has experienced costly flood damage from extreme weather events; and

Whereas, presently the environmental, health and social costs of carbon pollution is not included in prices paid for fossil fuels, but borne directly or indirectly by all Americans and global citizens; and

Whereas, the City of Iowa City recently passed a resolution calling for a 26-28% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2025 and 80% reduction by 2050; and

Whereas, efforts to reach these goals would be greatly enhanced by compatible national legislation that creates financial disincentives for continued dependence on fossil fuel energy production; and

Whereas, a national revenue-neutral carbon fee starting at a relatively low rate and increasing steadily over future years is a market based approach that would have minimal impact on the economy while sending clear and predictable price signals to businesses to develop and use non-carbon based energy resources; and

Whereas, a dividend program would distribute revenues from such a fee to all Americans and minimize negative impacts on household energy budgets; and

Whereas, border adjustments—carbon content based tariffs on products imported from countries without comparable carbon pricing and refunds to our exporters of increased costs from carbon fees—can maintain the competitiveness of US businesses in global markets;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Iowa City:

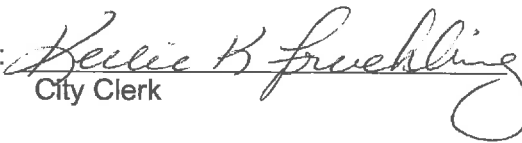
That the United States Congress should pass Carbon Fee and Dividend legislation which places a progressively rising fee on fossil fuels at the source, distributes all revenues on a per capita basis to American households, and imposes a border adjustment on imports and exports to maintain American competitiveness.

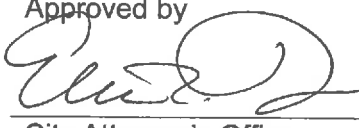
Further resolved, that the City Clerk of the Council will transmit copies of the resolution to our representatives in Washington: Senator Charles Grassley, Senator Joni Ernst and Congressman David Loebsack.

Passed and approved this 5th day of December, 2017.



Mayor

ATTEST: 
City Clerk

Approved by 

City Attorney's Office

11-28-17

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It was moved by Mims and seconded by Botchway the
Resolution be adopted, and upon roll call there were:

AYES:	NAYS:	ABSENT:	ABSTAIN:	
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Botchway
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Cole
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Dickens
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Mims
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Taylor
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Thomas
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Throgmorton