

**RESOLVED, that the United States Congress initiate
a revenue-neutral fee on Carbon Fuels.**

WHEREAS, Maine recognizes that the health of our citizens is dependent on the high quality of our air, water, and natural resources and that the health of much of the state's economy, including agriculture, forestry, fishing and tourism are favored by a stable climate;

WHEREAS, the University of Maine's Climate Change Institute agrees with the consensus of climate scientists worldwide, that the climate is now changing rapidly, and that recent changes are associated with increased concentrations of pollutant emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases, derived principally from the burning of the carbon fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas); and

WHEREAS, the State has pursued efforts through the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative to reduce the burning of carbon fuels for generation of electricity, and is on target to reduce all emissions to 10% below 1990 levels by 2020, with plans being developed for an 80% reduction by 2050; and

WHEREAS, such reductions of CO₂ emissions worldwide are warranted in order to stay below the 1.5°C global temperature rise that is currently acknowledged to be a dangerous climate threshold; and

WHEREAS, putting a price on carbon fuels ("a carbon fee") is widely accepted by economists as being the most effective means to achieve this goal; with revenues returned to the economy through equitable dividends distributed to all households (both as currently incorporated in the language of H.R.763); with the intent of leveraging market forces to encourage investments in increased energy efficiency and alternate sources of energy by both industry and consumers.

WHEREAS, this carbon-fee-and-dividend proposal is expected to be revenue-neutral (not enlarging government), effective (in reducing emissions), good for people (for improved health and with dividends to cover rising costs and/or choice in a freer market), good for the economy (with new jobs in many sectors), and bipartisan (with support from both major political parties).

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the _____
_____ (*Name of town or group*) strongly urges that the U.S. Congress:

(1) Enact a carbon fee and dividend system (as in H.R. 763) that both: a) reduces US CO₂-equivalent emissions to 10% of 1990 levels; and b) encourages similar actions by other nations trading with the United States by suitable carbon-content-based tariffs for imports from, and rebates for exports to, nations that have not taken similar actions; and

(2) Implement this policy with the speed appropriate to the gravity and urgency of the situation, and in recognition of the benefits that will be realized by a transition to clean energy.

Signed _____

Title _____ **Dated** _____