

RESOLUTION No. 01/21/19(2019)

Resolution 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 (CO₂) 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 Central Wisconsin's natural resources and has been identified in the Wisconsin Division of Emergency Management's Hazard Mitigation Plan; 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 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 Board of the Town of Farmington 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. CO2 emissions to 10% of 1990 levels by 2050;

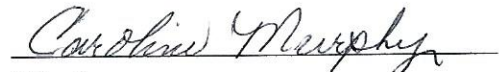
d. Encourage similar actions by other nations trading with the United States, by suitable carbon-content-based fees for imports, and rebates for exports to nations that have not taken such actions.

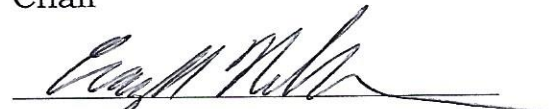
IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Clerk of the Town of Farmington is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Town's Congressional delegation to include Senator Ron Johnson, Senator Tammy Baldwin and Representative Mike Gallagher.


Adopted this 21st day of January, 2019

ATTEST:


Danielle Taggart Clerk-Treasurer


Chair


Supervisor I


Supervisor II

Published: January 28, 2019