



Eric Fine

Group Leader, Greater New Haven Chapter, Citizens' Climate Lobby

733 Whitney Ave. Apt. 1

New Haven, CT 06511

October 22, 2019

Alder Tyisha Walker-Myers

President, New Haven Board of Alders

165 Church St.

New Haven, CT 06511

Dear Alder Walker-Myers,

First of all, thank you to you and the Board of Alders for passing the recent resolution declaring climate change an emergency. As a next step, I am writing to request a public hearing to discuss the possibility of the Board of Alders passing a resolution urging the United States Congress to enact the **Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763**.

H.R. 763 is the first bipartisan climate legislation in a decade and it currently has 68 sponsors in the House of Representatives. It's based on a Citizens' Climate Lobby framework to account for the hidden costs of burning fossil fuels. If enacted into law, this policy will drive down greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by stimulating American innovation and ingenuity. Scientists and economists alike say it's the best first step to reduce the impact of global warming.

Here's how it works:

- A carbon fee is placed on coal, oil, or natural gas as it enters the U.S. economy.
- The fee starts at \$15 per metric ton of CO₂ and increases by \$10 – adjusted for inflation – every year until GHG emissions are reduced by 90 percent.
- All of the money is recycled to American residents in equal monthly carbon dividends, helping consumers adapt while businesses compete to reduce their carbon footprints.
- If emission cuts don't meet mandatory targets, the annual increase can be raised to \$15.
- A carbon border fee adjustment is placed on emissions-intensive goods that are imported or exported. This discourages businesses from relocating to where they can pollute more, and also encourages other nations to price carbon.
- This policy would supersede a narrow subset of GHG regulations [4] for 10 years, but if GHG emissions haven't been cut 30 percent by then, the EPA would be obligated to issue new rules to put us back on track. All other Clean Air Act regulations remain in full force.

Because the steady increase in fossil energy prices is predictable, it will stimulate invention and investment to cut carbon in myriad ways. Consumers will know they can count on increasing dividends to help them through the transition to a world of clean, energy-efficient goods and services.

Please let me know if you have any questions about H.R. 763 or the impacts it would have on New Haven, Connecticut, or the United States.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Fine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning and a stylized "E" and "F".

Eric Fine
973-640-0453
yalenewhaven@citizensclimatelobby.org