

Support H.B. No. 5363

Dear Environment Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly:

I strongly support An Act Establishing a Carbon Price for Fossil Fuels Sold in Connecticut, HB 5363.

Over 97% of scientists agree that climate change is real and caused by humans. The consequences of global warming have grave impact not only on our state, but also on our country and our world. Increases in global temperatures put our health, our economy, and our national security at risk. Time magazine, reporting on a Pentagon report published in January 2018, stated, “Nearly 50% of U.S. military installations across the globe face increased risk of a slew of climate change-related threats including extreme temperature, flooding and drought.”

Carbon pricing will reduce carbon emissions. Over 75% of 1100 economists surveyed by NYU's Institute for Policy Integrity agree that putting a price on carbon is the most economically efficient way to reduce carbon pollution. Research shows that in as few as 20 years, carbon pricing could reduce carbon emissions to as much as 50% of 1990 levels while adding 2.8 million jobs to the American economy.

I strongly support a carbon pricing structure as proposed in HB 5363 that not only creates carbon fees, but also provides dividends to employers and households. By redistributing fees, low-income households and small businesses will not be adversely affected by a carbon fee. Being revenue neutral will also increase the likelihood of bipartisan support.

I thank the Environment Committee for giving this important bill a hearing. By supporting a revenue neutral carbon fee, Connecticut can be a leader in addressing climate change and make a significant difference in our world.

Thank you,

Barbara Edinberg

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