

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment,

I am very concerned about the impacts of climate change here in Oregon. Last September, the smoke from wildfires kept most of us indoors for two weeks because it was too hazardous to breathe the air. This past week, we saw extreme arctic air bring debilitating ice storms that disabled power for hundreds of thousands of Oregonians. These extreme weather events are only going to become more common if we don't address the cause of climate change, which is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

I am writing today to ask you to support SJM 5-1, that urges Congress to enact carbon fee and dividend legislation, such as the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. I support federal carbon pricing legislation because thousands of economists agree that a market-based carbon price is the most effective way to rapidly reduce carbon emissions. Because the dividend portion of this bill provides a monthly rebate check to every American household, it would provide an economic buffer and protect lower-income families from increasing energy costs. This approach is also good for the economy because studies show it creates over two million jobs and it's revenue-neutral, so there is no increase to our federal deficit. Additionally, it is a bipartisan solution, which is important if we want to guarantee that the legislation will stay in place for years to come.

While climate solutions may be advanced at the local and state level, it is increasingly clear that comprehensive federal action is what will move the needle on this important issue. Please vote yes in favor of this Joint Memorial.

Respectfully,
Kirsten Meneghello