



Protecting Waukesha County's natural resources since 1978

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July 10, 2019

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Congresswoman Gwen Moore
U.S. House of Representatives
2252 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Moore:

We are writing this letter to ask you to co-sponsor H.R. 763, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act.

<https://energyinnovationact.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Energy-Innovation-and-Carbon-Dividend-Act-2019.pdf>

As you know, climate change is real and it is happening now. Climate change is not only an issue of the environment; it is also an issue of justice and human rights. All over the world people of color, Indigenous Peoples and low-income communities bear disproportionate burdens from climate change. These populations have often done the least to cause the problem. For example African Americans residing in central cities, who have smaller "carbon footprints," live in areas with large amounts of impervious surface. These surfaces are significantly more prone to flooding and the urban "heat island" effect.

As heat waves become more frequent air pollutants such as smog and particulate matter will increase, particularly in urban areas. Particulate pollution aggravates asthma and increases respiratory and heart disease. Vulnerable populations also tend to have more barriers to quality health care.

H.R. 763 will cut U.S. carbon emissions 40% in 12 years and around 80% by 2050. The proposal has also been endorsed by many economists as the most efficient way to address climate change.

Further the bill's dividend will largely *benefit* vulnerable populations. In a study by Kevin Ummel, an independent researcher at the Center for Global Development, 53% of U.S. households receive a net financial benefit as the dividend exceeds the estimated increase in costs of goods purchased.

https://11bup83xdss1xze1i3lpol4-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Ummel-Impact-of-CCL-CFD-Policy-v1_4.pdf

The gains are concentrated among those with lower incomes, the youngest and oldest, and minorities. After 10 years, a family of 4 will be getting a dividend check of almost \$300/ month.

Finally, beyond dollars, there will be benefits to the poor and middle class in terms of improved health and jobs.

H.R. 763 is a positive step in making our country more healthy, fair and livable. Please co-sponsor this important bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

On behalf of the Board of Directors,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Gloe".

Nancy Gloe

President, Waukesha County Environmental Action League