

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION

RECITALS:

WHEREAS the City of Flagstaff's mission is to protect and enhance the quality of life of its citizens; and

WHEREAS the 2014 voter approved Flagstaff Regional Plan 2030 asserts that environmental health is essential to individual and community health; and

WHEREAS prudent, fact-based stewardship of the economy and the environment is a critical responsibility in order to ensure that the resources of the City and its natural environment are available for future generations; and

WHEREAS there have been marked increases in extreme weather events impacting northern Arizona including drought, wildfires, wind and flooding, which are expected to further worsen; and

WHEREAS, if left unaddressed, the consequences of a changing climate, including severe weather events, have the potential to adversely impact all Flagstaff residents, harming productivity in key economic sectors such as construction, ranching, and tourism, saddling future generations with costly economic and environmental burdens, and imposing additional costs on City and County budgets that will further add to fiscal challenges; and

WHEREAS, the urgently needed transition from fossil fuels can be accomplished effectively with a market-based program, namely a revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility and duty of the City Council to advocate for state and national policies that will protect all Flagstaff residents from events that could negatively impact their health, welfare, and safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1.

That the Council strongly urges the U.S. Congress to enact legislation that:

- A. Levies an annually increasing fee on carbon dioxide (or green house gas equivalent) emissions produced by fossil fuels at the point of production and importation;
- B. Returns to Americans on an equitable basis all of the revenues generated from the fee; and

- C. Incorporates suitable carbon-content-based fees for imports from, and rebates for, exports to nations that have not taken an action like this.

SECTION 2.

The City of Flagstaff Intergovernmental Relations Program director is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the delegation in the U.S. Congress representing Flagstaff within 60 days of enactment.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Flagstaff this 2nd day of February, 2016.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY