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SENATE MEMORIAL 75

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

William P. Soules

A MEMORIAL

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A STUDY OF CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND
LEGISLATION.

WHEREAS, the weight of scientific evidence indicates that
greenhouse gas emissions from human activities, including the
burning of fossil fuels and other sources, are causing rising
global temperatures; and

WHEREAS, the weight of scientific evidence also indicates
that a return from the current concentration of more than four
hundred parts per million of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere
to three hundred fifty parts per million of carbon dioxide or
less is necessary to slow or stop the rise in global
temperatures; and

WHEREAS, further increases in global temperatures pose
imminent and substantial dangers to human health, the natural

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1 environment, the economy and national security and an
2 unacceptable risk of catastrophic impacts to human
3 civilization; and

4 WHEREAS, the measures proposed in federal carbon fee and
5 dividend legislation will provide for benefits to the economy,
6 human health, the environment and national security as a result
7 of correcting market distortions, reducing non-greenhouse-gas
8 pollutants, reducing the outflow of dollars to oil-producing
9 countries and improving the energy security of the United
10 States; and

11 WHEREAS, phasing in carbon fees on greenhouse gas
12 emissions is the most efficient, transparent and enforceable
13 mechanism to drive an effective and fair transition to a
14 domestic energy economy, stimulate investment in alternative
15 energy technologies and give all businesses powerful incentives
16 to increase their energy efficiency and reduce their carbon
17 footprints in order to remain competitive; and

18 WHEREAS, equal monthly dividends from carbon fees paid to
19 every American household can help ensure that families and
20 individuals can afford the energy they need during the
21 transition to a low-carbon economy, which will also stimulate
22 the economy;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
24 OF NEW MEXICO that a study of carbon fee and dividend
25 legislation be supported; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriate legislative interim committee study carbon fee and dividend proposals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the New Mexico legislative council.