



THE ENERGY INNOVATION AND CARBON DIVIDEND ACT

Bi-partisan Legislation to Help Solve Global Warming

Action Request:

On January 25th, 2019, a bipartisan group of House representatives introduced H.R. 763, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (EICDA). The legislation seeks to reduce national carbon pollution emissions over 90% by 2050. Global warming is a social justice issue because the people that will be harmed most are the poor and future generations. This legislation is a cost-effective way to address the root cause of climate change: growing carbon emissions from burning fossil fuels. EICDA is a market-based, revenue-neutral approach which would place an annually increasing fee on the carbon emissions of oil, natural gas and coal at the point of production or import. Its intent is to gradually reduce fossil fuel usage and encourage the innovation and use of “clean” energy sources. Proceeds from the fee would be distributed to American households in the form of a monthly “dividend” check. The dividend would help off-set increases in fossil fuel prices. Agriculture and Military are exempted. Border adjustments will ensure America remains internationally competitive. Studies indicate that a large majority of households, especially those in lower and middle income brackets, would benefit from the dividend program. The program is expected to grow jobs while avoiding billions of dollars of economic damage from climate change. For more information please visit EnergyInnovationAct.org.

This legislation has been given a strong statement of support by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and is the first bi-partisan legislation on climate change to be introduced in 10 years. We are urging parishioners to call or write their congressional representative and tell them, “We need to take action on climate change, and please support or co-sponsor H.R.763, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act.”

You can call your congressperson by calling the congressional switchboard phone number at 202.224.3121. Ask for your congressman or congresswoman, and when connected, leave the above message with their staff assistant.

You can write to your congressperson by visiting CatholicClimateCovenant.org and click on “Programs,” then click on “Advocacy” and click on the button for the “Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act.” They will provide a letter you can personalize, and they will send it electronically.