

# SGA

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
of UW-STEVENS POINT

## LEGISLATIVE COVER SHEET

Resolution Endorsing a Carbon Fee + Dividend Policy in the US  
Legislative Title

Legislative Affairs Committee, Environmental + Sustainability Affairs  
Sponsoring Committee

**Summary:**

Resolution endorsing the passage and implementation of a pricing system for carbon emissions that is revenue-neutral.

Bill Number: 2017.48.R.014

Author: Lucy DeLam, Robby Abrahamson

Date Presented:

4/12/17 (ESIC)

Date of Action:

Sponsoring Committee <u>(ESIC) (Leg Affairs)</u> <u>5 / 0 / 0</u> Y N A <u>[Signature]</u> Chair's Signature	Rules Committee <u>4 / 0 / 0</u> Y N A <u>[Signature]</u> Chair's Signature	General Assembly <u>13 / 0 / 8</u> Y N A <u>[Signature]</u> Chair's Signature
Constitution Review Committee <i>If the legislation is a bylaw amendment or constitutional amendment, it must pass through Constitution Review Committee</i> <u>— / — / —</u> Y N A Chair's Signature		

[Signature] 5/9/17  
Presidential Signature | Date

If applicable, veto override: — / —  
Y N

**APPROVED**

**VETOED**  
Attach Explanation

Speaker of the Senate signature, if applicable | Date

## Resolution Endorsing a Carbon Fee and Dividend Policy in the United States

**Whereas:** Global temperatures are rising in response to increasing greenhouse gas emissions, such as carbon, which have become a threat environmentally, economically, and is harmful for the health of the global population;

**Whereas:** Carbon dioxide, which is a byproduct of burning carbon based fuels, traps heat in the atmosphere and causes a greenhouse effect;

**Whereas:** A significant amount of evidence supports that these rising temperatures are caused by human activities, primarily through burning fossil fuels;

**Whereas:** Each year, these human activities account for over 30 billion tons of the carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere, resulting in an increase from pre-industrial levels at 280 parts per million (ppm) to over 401 ppm in 2016;

**Whereas:** In order to slow the rise in average global temperatures, the carbon dioxide level in the atmosphere must be reduced to or below 350 ppm;

**Whereas:** Carbon pricing provided US \$16 billion in revenues for global economies in 2014 and approximately US \$26 billion in 2015, which represents a 60 percent increase from 2014;

**Whereas:** Fossil fuel burning causes \$120 billion in health-related damages, which equals about \$1021 per household per year, and accounted for \$110 billion in damages in 2012 due to 11 climate-related disasters, which equals about \$936 per household;

**Whereas:** Implementing a carbon fee and dividend policy would allow for an effective and fair transition into a domestic-energy economy, while stimulating alternative sustainable energy technology investment and providing incentives for businesses to reduce their carbon footprints and increasing their energy efficiency;

**Whereas:** Implementing a carbon fee and dividend policy would be economically beneficial to United States taxpayer by subsidizing low carbon utility generation or providing rebates for United States taxpayer to minimize financial stress in the transition to renewable energy;

**Whereas:** The policy created by the Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) includes equal monthly dividends (rebates) from carbon fees paid to every United States household which can help ensure that families and individuals can afford the energy they need during the transition to low carbon economy, while the dividends will stimulate the economy;

**Whereas:** This particular policy would impose a carbon fee on greenhouse gases and fossil fuels at the point where they first enter the economy;

**Whereas:** The fee would be regulated by the Department of Energy, placed in the Carbon Fees Trust Fund, and then rebated to American households;

**Whereas:** Each month, all American households would be given equal per-person dividend payments, with a ½ payment per child under 18 years old and a limit of two (2) children per family;

**Whereas:** These dividend payments would make up 100% of the net carbon fees collected each month.

**Therefore be it resolved:** The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP) Student Government Association (SGA) calls upon the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate to implement a carbon fee and dividend tax plan for United States taxpayers;

**Therefore be it further resolved:** UWSP SGA supports the Carbon Fee and Dividend Policy proposed by CCL;

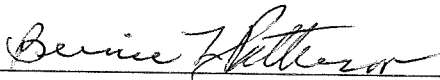
**Therefore be it finally resolved:** Upon passage by SGA, this resolution be forwarded to UWSP SGA President John Peralta, UWSP SGA Vice President Andrew Glazner, UWSP SGA Chief of Staff Tegan Griffith, UWSP Chancellor Bernie Patterson, UWSP Vice Chancellor Al Thompson, Governor Scott Walker, Stevens Point Citizens' Climate Lobby Chapter Leader Dan Dieterich, Citizens' Climate Lobby Executive Director Mark Reynolds, Citizens' Climate Lobby Legislative Director Daniel Richter, President Donald Trump, Vice President Mike Pence, Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, Representative Mike Gallagher (WI), Representative Sean Duffy (WI), Representative Glenn Grothman (WI), Representative Mark Pocan (WI), Representative Jim Sensenbrenner (WI), Representative Gwen Moore (WI), Representative Ron Kind (WI), Senator Ron Johnson (WI), Senator Tammy Baldwin (WI), Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (KY), House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (CA), Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (NY), Senator Bernie Sanders (VT), United States Senate Committee on Finance, Climate Solutions Caucus

**Authors:** College of Professional Studies Senator L. DeLain, Environmental & Sustainability Affairs Director Abrahamian

**Sponsor(s):** College of Letters and Science Senator Nellie DeLain, College of Natural Resources Senator Alex Thomas, College of Natural Resources Senator Deaken Boggs

**Sponsoring Committee(s):** Legislative Affairs Committee, Environmental & Sustainability Issues Committee

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UWSP Chancellor Bernie Patterson

5-17-17

Date