



Alaska Association of Student Governments

Resolution #8

Finding Common Ground on Climate Change Solutions

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Submitted 27 October 2022

Be it Resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that:

1. **Whereas**, young people will be disproportionately affected by climate change;
2. **Whereas**, Alaska is projected to warm by 4°F to 8°F by the end of the century¹;
3. **Whereas**, experts have associated the recent collapse of the Snow Crab population with the changing climate²;
4. **Whereas**, most glaciers in Alaska and British Columbia are shrinking substantially¹;
5. **Whereas**, permafrost across Alaska is thawing, threatening infrastructure and local economies¹;
6. **Whereas**, carbon dioxide is Earth's most important greenhouse gas, and its presence in the atmosphere is causing excess heat to be absorbed and radiated³;
7. **Whereas**, bipartisan support for a climate solution could deliver durable and lasting policy, remaining in effect for decades;
8. **Whereas**, a carbon rebate framework could put Alaska and America on track to exceed their carbon-reduction goals set in the Paris Climate Accords⁴;
9. **Whereas**, over 400 student body presidents representing college campuses in all 50 states have endorsed a carbon rebate framework⁵;
10. **Whereas**, thousands of economists have also endorsed the carbon rebate solution⁶;
11. **Whereas**, a carbon rebate framework enjoys support from a broad coalition, including major companies, Nobel Prize recipients for economics, and environmental leaders⁷;
12. **Whereas**, the broad support for carbon rebates could generate bipartisan legislative interest and help mitigate the cause of climate change;
13. **Whereas**, the carbon rebate/dividends solution is built around four pillars:

- a. Charge polluters a fee for their emissions. This would hold polluters accountable and incentivize an economy-wide transition to clean energy.
- b. All revenue raised from the fee would be returning to citizens in the form of a rebate/dividend. This would ensure that the vast majority of Americans-especially the most vulnerable-win financially as part of this solution to climate change.
- c. Streamline redundant regulations and provide the policy certainty that individuals and entrepreneurs need to invest in a green future and create jobs.
- d. Protect the competitiveness of the U.S. economy, through border carbon adjustments, and ensure global buy-in by incentivizing other countries to follow our lead;

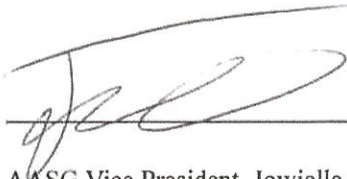
Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments supports the initiative to address climate change and adopt a carbon rebate plan.

Action Statement: if passed by the General Assembly of AASG, will be sent to Alaska’s US Congressional Delegation and respective state legislators.

Sources:

1. Chapin, F. S., III, S. F. Trainor, P. Cochran, H. Huntington, C. Markon, M. McCammon, A. D. McGuire, and M. Serreze, 2014: Ch. 22: Alaska. Climate Change Impacts in the United States: The Third National Climate Assessment, U.S. Global Change Research Program, 514-536. <[Link](#)>
2. Hirji, Zahra. “Alaska’s Snow Crab Collapse Is Likely Tied to Climate Change.” Bloomberg, 17 Oct. 2022. <[Link](#)>
3. Lindsey, R. (2022, June 22). Climate change: Atmospheric carbon dioxide. Climate.gov. <[Link](#)>
4. Halstead, Ted. et al. “Exceeding Paris” Climate Leadership Council, September 2019. <[Link](#)>
5. S4CD. (n.d.). The largest statement of student government leaders. S4CD. <[Link](#)>
6. Climate Leadership Council. (2019, January 17). Economists' statement. Clcouncil.org. <[Link](#)>
7. Yellen, J., Shultz, G., Bernanke, B., Greenspan, A., Summers, L. (2019, January 16). Economists' statement on carbon dividends. The Wall Street Journal. <[Link](#)>

Passed by the Fall 2022 General Assembly of AASG hosted by Wasilla High School



AASG Vice President, Jowielle Corpuz



AASG Executive Director, Kathleen Navarre