

Addressing climate change

Thank you for Professor James Jones' article, "State must address changing climate" (April 5), on the need for the state of Florida to speak about climate change and address the problem. Jones makes the valuable point that industries that acknowledge climate change facts, as they make their long-term plans, can benefit economically.

Indeed, our whole country can benefit economically by addressing climate change. Many people believe the old myth that acting on environmental issues is bad for the economy and expensive. However, a recent economic study by Regional Economic Models Inc. (REMI) suggests strongly that enacting the right legislation to cut emissions will, unlike cumbersome regulations, reduce emissions quickly while creating jobs and growing the economy.

It turns out designing the right legislation to fight climate change isn't hard and doesn't have to be expensive. REMI has held several information sessions on Capitol Hill to explain to Republican and Democratic representatives and senators how to design the legislation to cut emissions while protecting the public from energy price fluctuations and creating jobs.

All Congress needs to enact this clever legislation is the political will generated simply by citizens standing up and talking about their desire that Congress help stabilize the climate.

For more information, readers should contact their local chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby, an organization of volunteers lobbying Congress for national legislation to stabilize the climate.

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