

# Bay State must enact climate policy

In his “Hysteria over the Paris Agreement,” Rob Meltzer claims that only a minority of Americans believe in human-caused climate change. Meltzer presents no polling data, just polemics.

The best source for climate polling is Yale Climate Change Communication. YCCC says that nationally 53% of Americans (a majority) believe climate change is mostly caused by humans.

Check out their fun, color-coded maps. YCCC presents polling data on various climate questions, by state, congressional district and county, with colors indicating levels of concern. These maps are reassuring: despite swamp rats working hard to promote climate confusion, the majority of Americans aren’t fooled by polemics.

In every district throughout the country, majorities want funding for renewable energy research (82 percent nationally, lowest district was 74 percent). YCCC’s maps show that a majority in every district wants CO2 regulated, and wants CO2 limits on coal-fired power plants.

There’s so much support for climate action that 24 House Republicans joined a House Climate Solutions Caucus. The caucus met this week with former Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson to hear about economic risks from climate change and ways to reduce those risks.

Economics professor, and former HSBC climate change advisor, Nicholas Stern has written that establishing long-term stable policy is the best government action. Whether incentives, subsidies, carbon taxes or low-carbon investment tax cuts, the caucus should push for long-term climate policies.

Until Washington enacts climate policy, Massachusetts must. Please urge Gov. Baker to heed Paulson and Stern.

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Brookline

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