

Weiss: Causes of sea level rise must be confronted

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Thank you for writing about climate change's serious dangers, especially this week, the anniversary of Sandy ("Batten down the hatches," Oct. 27). However, I disagree with one statement you made: "Put aside the climate change debate for now. We won't talk about what's causing the sea levels to rise, who's to blame or how to stop it."

There is no debate about why sea levels are rising. It is because atmospheric levels of CO₂ are too high because humans have burned too much fossil fuel. The only debate is how hot will it get, how much will seas rise and how fast? As for the question: how to stop it. It is too late to stop climate change, it is already happening. A better question to ask is: if we cut our CO₂ emissions can we slow climate change enough to avoid the worst consequences?

The only rational, moral, sane course of action is to give it our best shot and hope that with enough ingenuity, investment and effort we will succeed.

Please encourage members of the Massachusetts Congressional delegation to find Republican co-sponsors for bipartisan carbon tax legislation. Perhaps those Republicans who were willing to put the government back to work, will be willing to put the government to work on climate change legislation.

JUDY WEISS

Brookline

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