

Letter: Climate change and what to do about it

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Editor,

Kudos to columnist Jonathan Madison for seriously addressing global warming, studying the science and coming to the responsible conclusion that “the widespread view held by the scientific community that our climate is changing and that human actions are indeed affecting it” means he’s obligated to consider how elected officials can protect constituents from warming (“Climate change: How much are we to blame?” in the Dec. 6 edition of the Daily Journal). He concludes, “We must urge our elected officials ... enact meaningful policies that will incentivize economic growth among all facets of our great society whilst protecting the environment around us that we hold so dear.”

The “free-market environmentalism” Madison wants is already being promoted by Citizens’ Climate Lobby, a volunteer organization lobbying for national climate legislation. We propose a free market-based carbon pricing plan that collects a carbon emissions fee from fossil fuel producers and rebates all revenue to households. Our plan incentivizes low emissions processes without rigid regulation or heavy-handed government favoritism.

Recent economic studies demonstrate this legislation is good for the environment, the economy, jobs and our household budgets.

In my part of the country, Congressman Chris Gibson (R-NY) is introducing legislation to push us “to operate in the realm of knowledge and science, and ... bring forward conservative solutions to this,” to the reality of changing weather patterns. Gibson’s bill has the goal “of rallying us, to harken us to our best sense, our ability to overcome hard challenges.”

Ask your representatives to support Gibson and help CCL’s proposed legislation become law, as we follow common sense and overcome hard challenges.

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