

Congress can set climate policy with carbon-tax bill

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Columnist E. J. Dionne's article, "Obama's unfulfilled challenge," paints a sad but legitimate portrait of the dysfunction of Congress.

Dionne urges Obama to "lift up government service as a noble calling" because it would lead to better hiring by the government, and remind Americans that government employees serve a high ideal, self-government.

Dionne identifies the main idea behind Citizens' Climate Lobby. Recognizing that Congress will only enact climate-change legislation if they sense the political will exists, CCL empowers members to learn about the urgency of climate change, the best policy options, and how to create political will via letters to the editor, op-ed articles and visits to congressional offices.

Please urge Congresswoman Niki Tsongas to support a revenue-neutral carbon tax with border adjustments. Border adjustments will tax imports to our country from nations that do not tax carbon, so our businesses will not face unfair advantages, and so other countries will be motivated to enact similar taxes.

We can only slow climate change if we work together. Revenue-neutral means the taxes collected will be returned to Americans either through rebate checks or lower income taxes. The tax will stimulate new investment in clean energy leading to more, cheap clean energy.

It is pretty amazing that with a carbon-tax bill, Congress can set climate policy for the world. It is pretty amazing that it is only up to us to ask for it loudly enough so that it will happen.

Join us and start asking.

JUDY WEISS

Brookline

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