

## **GOP senators have work to do on climate change**

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June 6 — To the Editor:

Thank you for Deborah McDermott's article on proposed EPA regulations in which she reported that Sens. Kelly Ayotte and Susan Collins, both Republicans, will review the regulations carefully ("N.H. and Maine eye impact of EPA rules," June 4).

I hope these two pragmatic Republicans will understand that regulations were long overdue, and were issued because Congress failed to enact suitable climate change legislation. I hope these two strong congressional leaders will guide their party to understand that these regulations are not enough to reduce emissions adequately and control climate change. These regulations are just the first step. I hope these two fine senators, who worked together to end the budget crisis last fall, will team up to address the climate change crisis by co-sponsoring climate legislation that charges a price for carbon pollution and rebates revenues to households to protect Americans from energy price increases.

Sen. Collins sponsored such legislation in 2010. It is time for her to do so again. This time Sen. Ayotte is in the Senate to lend her support, and four more years of scientific research backs her up, and investors clearly want a market-based climate change policy. The stock market responded to the EPA's announcement on Monday (June 2) by hitting new highs because investors and businesses want climate change controlled and want clear policy actions. Moreover, recent economic studies by REMI and by Republican economists (Mankiw, Schultz, Becker, Laffer, Stelzer) indicate a carbon tax will create a boom in clean energy development leading to lower energy prices within about 10 years, and job growth and a thriving economy.

With one piece of legislation, Sens. Collins and Ayotte can fight climate change and reverse public perception that Sen. Marco Rubio speaks for all Republicans.

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