

Here's a fair and effective way to do something about climate change: PennLive letters

By [Letters to the Editor](#)

on October 06, 2013 at 8:08 AM, updated October 06, 2013 at 8:10 AM

Thank you for Matt Zencey's outstanding [article on climate change, Michael Mann, and the need for honest discussions about policy options](#) that focus on efficacy and fairness, rather than denialist nonsense that has dominated the debate for years due to fossil fuel interests spreading misinformation.

If readers are concerned about climate change policies being too expensive or only something the U.S. undertakes but not China and India, they should ask their Senators and Representatives to get involved in setting U.S. climate change policy. As long as Congress refuses to acknowledge the seriousness of climate change and the need to reduce emissions, then President Obama will continue to promote a regulatory approach that is expensive and only affects the U.S.

However, if Congress would hold hearings investigating the best non-regulatory approaches to climate change, they would probably discover that a revenue-neutral carbon tax is cheaper than regulations, easier to implement, and ends up affecting China and India too via "border adjustments" to imported goods.

A carbon tax that is revenue-neutral is collected by the government and returned to the public (via rebate checks or decreases in income taxes). Individuals are thus protected from price increases. However, in the case of regulations, no money is collected by the government, so there is nothing to rebate to individuals, and we just have to cope with price increases without help.

Readers should please ask Senators Pat Toomey and Bob Casey Jr. to research the benefits of a revenue-neutral carbon tax and co-sponsor the legislation. Benjamin Franklin famously warned that by failing to prepare, one prepares to fail. Let the Senators of Ben Franklin's state guarantee that America does not fail to prepare.

JUDY WEISS, Brookline, MA

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