

Michael Kraft's article about the Paris agreement and the Trump administration was polite, and respectfully ignored ways in which the Trump administration lied to the American people during the last few, head-spinning weeks. The idea of urging Trump's administration to stick by Paris and work on a Shultz-Baker carbon tax is like sleeping, dreaming you're dining at a sumptuous banquet only to awaken and find you're sleeping eating your shirt because you have no food.

Kraft would do better by urging Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, Washington, Oregon — to pass various versions of a state carbon tax. Differently designed state carbon taxes will serve valuable functions. These bills can provide live evidence for Americans about how carbon taxes cut emissions while stimulating local economies. And different versions can allow the comparison of features — like returning the revenue to the public versus using it for other purposes — so when it's finally enacted by a future Congress, they'll know how best to use the revenues.

Until Congress deals with the Trump administration's misrepresentations, involvement with Russia and generally bad faith behavior, Congress won't be dealing with climate legislation. Let's enact a state carbon tax so we aren't wasting time.

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