

## **Lowering emissions will take more than divestment**

Thank you for publishing an oped by biologists Pam McVety and Ellie Whitney urging the public to divest their holdings of fossil fuel company stocks in order to help slow climate change. They're right — divesting is a powerful way to take a moral stand, to say “I don't want to benefit from something so hurtful to our future.” And it's a powerful message to take to the public, because one small sound byte — “Divest!” — says everything, and is easily understood.

The only problem with divestment is it doesn't lower emissions. Once the public, media and government hear the message that climate change is serious and needs to be addressed, then we must start doing the hard work of designing policies to lower emissions quickly.

This will bring us to another phrase Gov. Scott will probably try to censure: Carbon taxes paid by fossil fuel producers and rebated to the public is the fastest way to cut emissions while insulating the public from price increases.

RABBI JUDY WEISS  
Brookline, Mass.

[LINK](#)