

Weiss: Make a hullabaloo about climate

Posted Jun. 21, 2014 @ 12:08 am

Re: 'Massachusetts takes the lead' (June 14)

Great editorial! It does feel good to live in a state that leads on important issues. However there is one fine point requiring emphasis. On most important issues, it is enough to just take care of ourselves and when others get there, they'll get there. But global warming is different. Massachusetts cannot protect its residents from global warming's risks unless all 50 states and the rest of the world join us. As a result, it is incumbent upon our entire Congressional delegation (Sens. Warren and Markey, and Reps. Neal, McGovern, Tsongas, Kennedy, Clark, Tierney, Capuano, Lynch, and Keating) to speak out daily about global warming and to yell about Congressional policy options sorely needed to supplement EPA regulatory efforts.

What should they clamor about? Let them read the June 9th report released by Regional Economic Models Inc that found a revenue-neutral carbon tax would cut emissions, boost the economy and create 2 million jobs within 10 years. Also, a carbon tax can be charged on imports from countries not curtailing emissions, so other major countries will be motivated to enact similar legislation. The more our Members of Congress speak about REMI's study and the efficacy of a carbon tax rebated to households, the more they will drown out objections to legislation because of alleged threats posed to the economy.

By creating a hullabaloo over global warming and carbon tax legislation, our delegation will protect other Congressional candidates in other states from dark money, fossil fuel lobbies and climate change misinformation campaigns.

They will also be modeling for their constituents how to create the political will to make democracy work for us.

JUDY WEISS

Brookline

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