

Protecting environment key to national defense

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According to State House News reporter Matt Murphy's article, Janet Napolitano's speech at the National Press Club covered the Boston Marathon bombing, and regarding future risks to our country, she mentioned we "should be prepared for the 'increasing likelihood' of severe weather-related events due to climate change."

In fact, a growing number of U.S. military and national security experts and veterans of recent wars warn climate change isn't just an environmental or health danger, it's a serious national security risk.

Michael Breen of the Truman National Security Project warns that terrorist organizations recruit new fighters from flood refugees. More climate disasters will mean more desperate refugee populations.

What can an ordinary citizen do? Advocate. Washington must act to cut emissions and slow climate change. We must call and write our senators and representatives demanding they make climate change their top priority.

The best legislative policy to fight climate change: a carbon tax that is collected from coal, oil and gas producers and rebated to households.

Let's conquer this environmental challenge and protect our country from security threats.

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