Rabbi who is climate change activist applauds Hoboken pols' stance on global warming

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Rabbi Judy Weiss

HOBOKEN -- Rabbi Judy Weiss of Brookline, Mass., a member of Citizen's Climate Lobby, was moved to write a letter to the editor after <u>seeing a story</u> <u>on Hoboken Now</u> Tuesday when Assemblyman Ruben Ramos called for support to President Barack Obama's climate change policy at a press conference in Hoboken Tuesday.

Ramos was joined by Councilman Tim Occhipinti and Jeff Tittel, director of the New Jersey Sierra Club.

The letter is as follows:

Dear Editor,

Kudos to Ramos, Occhipinti and Tittel for speaking about climate change's dangers. NJ residents want climate change action, therefore they must opt to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, making small lifestyle changes. Insulate homes, fly less, or drive more efficient cars. Every effort reducing emissions, helps stabilize the climate thus protecting health, homes and assets.

Furthermore, whenever residents elect an emissions-reducing change, they should write their Senator and Representative to inform them NJ wants climate change action. Obama's proposal to fight climate change with regulations is not the best approach. Regulations are hard to write, administer and enforce, and are ineffective against international emissions. Moreover, regulations raise electricity prices as utilities pass costs to consumers.

However, a national, revenue-neutral carbon tax is simple to write and administer. With border adjustments, it could have significant international effects. If we collect carbon taxes from fossil fuel companies, we can rebate the revenue to households, shielding consumers from price increases. Carbon taxes indicate to investors that clean energy investments are a better investment so our economy will be stimulated.

Members of Congress must hear we want climate action. We want to receive carbon tax rebates in 2014!

Judy Weiss Brookline, MA

Citizens Climate Lobby is a non-profit, advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change. Weiss does bible readings with the Women's League of Conservative Judaism.

 $http://www.nj.com/hudson/index.ssf/2013/07/rabbi_and_climate_change_activist_applauds_hoboken_pols_stance_on_global_warming.html$