

# Readers' Letters:

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## **Share stories, opinions on climate change**

Thanks for Kendra Hogue's great article on the value of telling personal stories to motivate people to climate action (The making of a climate change activist, Sustainable Life, March 13). Much has been written lately about the inability of climate facts to convince people that climate change needs immediate attention. It turns out it is more important for people who have experience or knowledge to express opinions.

Here is my story and my opinion: I've known about climate change for decades, but I've also known that my green decisions, by themselves, can't slow climate change. So three years ago, I reluctantly began volunteering for Citizens' Climate Lobby seeking legislation for a revenue-neutral carbon tax (just know that I am a former CPA and this is the best way to reduce emissions and stimulate the economy).

Why was I reluctant to work with CCL? Because I learned as a teenager in the 1960s that in American politics the people who seek to improve the world get shot, and those who want to prevent improvement sit in Congress.

Yet, because climate change requires congressional legislation, and because newspapers were not covering climate change at all three years ago, I felt I had a moral obligation to lobby Congress.

I began writing letters to the editors of papers in the greater Boston area. Then I started writing to papers in the Northeast, and later all over the country.

Last week I had my 200th letter published. Will it help Congress pass revenue-neutral carbon tax legislation (with border adjustments to motivate Asian countries to adopt their own taxes)? I can only hope because now I have a grandchild and he doesn't deserve to see 750, 800 or 950 parts per million in his lifetime.

**Rabbi Judy Weiss**

*Brookline, Mass.*

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