

# Letters to editor, 6/17

## **We can aid environment and the economy**

Thank you for publishing Leonard Pitts' terrific op-ed article on the way Republican politicians are responding to the most recent climate reports with the ludicrous meme: "I'm not a scientist" ( "[GOP response to climate change resolution is gutless](#)" June 9) However, his suggestion that they act like adults and choose to fix the environment while supposedly destroying the economy won't convince a politician to eat his earlier climate change denial words. Can we help Republicans talk about climate change while retaining their honor?

How about revealing new information indicating we don't have to choose between the environment and the economy? On June 9, Regional Economic Modeling Inc (REMI) released a study of the effects of a national carbon tax on our emissions and our economy. The results? Assuming the carbon tax is rebated 100 percent to the public via monthly rebate checks, a gradually increasing carbon tax can drive down emissions while growing our job market by 2.1 million jobs in the first 10 years. Monthly rebate checks protect low- and middle-class families from energy price increases. Even more amazing: while electricity prices will rise during the first years, by the tenth year, electricity prices will begin to plummet as more and more emissions-free energy come online.

If journalists and readers review and publicize REMI's results, politicians will eat it up! Please contact Citizens' Climate Lobby ([www.citizensclimatelobby](http://www.citizensclimatelobby)) for more information on REMI's report on the impact of a national carbon tax.

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<http://www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/story/opinion/letters/2014/06/16/letters-climate-gmos-politicians/10635613/>