

Statement of Support on the Principles of Carbon Dividends

The majority of Americans believes climate change is a grave concern and would accept the cost of stricter regulations. At the same time, the majority of Republicans view the economic costs of stricter regulations to outweigh the benefits.

A recent proposal by eight Republicans of the Climate Leadership Council lays out a common-sense carbon dividends plan that finds the middle ground between these concerns. This proposal would cut carbon emissions by 28% by 2025 (compared to an emissions reduction of 16% if all Obama Administration policies were left in place) while providing an average dividends payment of \$2,000 to American families that would deliver economic benefits to 70% of Americans.¹

Solutions to climate change and growing economic insecurity can't wait any longer; we need real leadership from our elected representatives right now. To build momentum for a bi-partisan solution that benefits all Americans, we are asking you to sign this document to support the principles of the carbon dividends framework.

We, the various undersigned elected representatives of New York State, support the following principles of a carbon dividends proposal in order to take deeply impactful action to address climate change while delivering economic benefits to our constituents:

- 1. A carbon tax on CO2 emissions only, steadily increasing from \$40/ton CO2;*
- 2. A carbon dividend of revenues raised paid directly to American families;*
- 3. Incorporating border adjustments for the carbon content of both imports and exports to address concerns around American economic competitiveness; and*
- 4. An analysis of current carbon emissions regulations and possible roll-back of carbon emissions regulations that are 100% redundant if this proposal were enacted.*

In good faith and working on behalf of the community members we represent, we can find a bi-partisan solution to this great challenge.

¹ "The Conservative Case for Carbon Dividends". Climate Leadership Council. (February, 2017). Retrieved from: <https://www.clcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/TheConservativeCaseforCarbonDividends.pdf>