Senate Joint Memorial 5

Sponsored by Senator DEMBROW; Senators FREDERICK, GORSEK, PROZANSKI, TAYLOR, Representatives HERNANDEZ, NOSSE, REARDON, SALINAS, WILDE (at the request of former Representative Tiffany Mitchell)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Urges Congress to enact bipartisan climate change legislation.

JOINT MEMORIAL

To the President of the United States and the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas the death and destruction already wrought by global warming of approximately 1.1 degrees Celsius above late 19th century levels demonstrates that Earth is already too hot for safety, as attested by rising seas and increased and intensifying wildfires, floods, diseases, droughts and extreme weather; and

Whereas climate change is driving the sixth mass extinction of species, which may pose as great a risk to humanity as climate change, according to the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services; and

Whereas restoring a safe and stable climate requires urgent action on the part of the federal government to rapidly and safely draw down excess carbon from the atmosphere to protect all people and species from the increasingly severe consequences of climate change; and

Whereas it is imperative that the United States act as a global leader on climate change; and

Whereas House Resolution 763 (H.R. 763), the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, will drive down America's carbon pollution while unleashing American technology, innovation and ingenuity; and

Whereas H.R. 763 puts a fee on fossil fuels that starts low and grows over time, driving down carbon pollution because energy companies, industries and consumers will move toward cleaner and cheaper options; and

Whereas the moneys collected from the carbon fee will be allocated in equal shares every month to the American people to spend as they see fit, helping low-income and middle-income Americans; and

Whereas H.R. 763 is revenue-neutral, requiring that program costs be paid from the fees collected and ensuring that the federal government will not keep any moneys from the carbon fee; and

Whereas H.R. 763 is effective, reducing America’s carbon emissions by at least 40 percent in the first 12 years; and

Whereas H.R. 763 is good for people, improving health and saving lives; and

Whereas H.R. 763 is good for the economy, creating 2.1 million new jobs and driving economic

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in boldfaced type.

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growth in local communities across the nation; and
Whereas a majority of Americans, including a majority from each major political party, support
the Congress of the United States taking action on climate change; and
Whereas solving climate change is too urgent to get caught up in partisan politics; and
Whereas a viable climate change solution at the federal level needs to be big and lasting, which
means bipartisan legislation that has broad support from a wide variety of stakeholders; now,
therefore,
Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:
That we, the members of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly, recognize the urgent need to
pursue viable solutions to the threat posed by climate change to the State of Oregon, our nation and
the world; and be it further
Resolved, That we respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to pass, and the President
to sign, House Resolution 763, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act; and be it further
Resolved, That a copy of this memorial shall be sent to the President of the United States, to
the Senate Majority Leader, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to each member
of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.