

A RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE THE CARBON DIVIDEND AND ENERGY INNOVATION ACT

WHEREAS, in 2019, greenhouse gas emissions in the United States totaled 6,577 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents;¹

WHEREAS, global warming caused by greenhouse gas emissions has far-ranging environmental and health effects including, but not limited to, severe natural disasters, food supply disruptions, increased prevalence and effects of wildfires, and respiratory disease from smog and air pollution;²

WHEREAS, reducing greenhouse gas emissions would greatly reduce the impact of climate change on U.S. environmental and economic well-being. Further, emission reduction would save thousands of lives;³

WHEREAS, the development and large-scale of clean energy technologies is essential to reducing greenhouse gas emissions;

WHEREAS, UCLA and the University of California (UC) have taken steps to implement climate and sustainability favorable policies;

WHEREAS, the University of California (UC) is launching a Center for Climate Justice to address climate change as a social justice and equity issue;

WHEREAS, other climate and sustainability initiatives by the University include its move towards zero-emission vehicles, increasing sustainable food purchases, and diverting more than 90 percent of waste from all 10 UC campuses;⁴

WHEREAS, greenhouse gas emissions from the University of California (UC) have fallen by 13 percent since 2013 when the University announced its 2025 Carbon Neutrality goal;⁵

WHEREAS, the federal government must follow the University of California's lead and enact similar policies to tackle climate change;

¹ <https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/inventory-us-greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-sinks>

² <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/article/greenhouse-gases#:~:text=Greenhouse%20gases%20have%20far%20draining,change%20caused%20by%20greenhouse%20gas%20es.>

³ <https://www.climate.gov/climate-and-energy-topics/emissions-reduction-0>

⁴ https://www.ucop.edu/sustainability/ files/annual-reports/sustainability_report_2019_final.pdf

⁵ <https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/2020/03/carbon-emissions-down,-growth-up-across-the-university-of-california.html#:~:text=Highlights%20from%20the%202019%20Sustainable,19%20were%20electric%20or%20hybrids.>

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the UCLA USAC supports H.R. 2307, the Carbon Energy and Innovation Act to create a Carbon Dividend Trust Fund for the American people in order to encourage market-drive innovation of clean energy technologies and market efficiencies which will reduce harmful pollution and leave a healthier, more stable, and more prosperous nation for future generations.⁶

⁶ <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2307>