

From: [carboncashback hawaii](#)
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Subject: Carbon Cashback - Hawaii Legislature Poised to Urge US Congress to Act
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2023 12:30:20 PM
Attachments: [SCR200 - Urging US Congress to Adopt Carbon Cashback.pdf](#)

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Aloha Carbon Cashback Supporters,

We're excited to announce that the House and Senate have introduced resolutions that call on the Federal government to enact carbon cashback (carbon fee & dividend).

- Senate concurrent resolution, [SCR200](#), and non-concurrent resolution, [SR99](#), were introduced by Senator Rhoads and co-sponsored by senators Chang, Gabbard, Keith-Agaran, McKelvey, and Shimabukuro.
- House concurrent resolution, [HCR124](#), and non-concurrent resolution, [HR125](#), were introduced by Rep. Marten and co-sponsored by representatives Ganaden, Hussey-Burdick, Kapela, Kila, Lowen, Mizuno, and Perruso.

The full text of the Senate resolution appears below and is also attached for your convenience. The House resolution is identical.

The senate resolutions have been jointly referred to PSM/AEN, and the house resolutions have been referred to EEP. We kindly ask any of you who are constituents of the introducers or co-sponsors to send a quick note of thanks or make a quick phone call to thank your legislator.

For those whose legislators are not co-sponsors, we have been advised that now is a good time to make your legislators aware of the resolutions (and the importance of their support) as they can get lost in the frantic run to the finish of the session.

Once a hearing has been scheduled for a resolution, we will email to let you know that testimony needs to be submitted in support of the resolution. The email will include sample testimony to make submitting testimony easy.

Again, thank you for your support for this important and impactful policy.

Mahalo nui loa,

Carbon Cashback Task Force

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THE SENATE
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023
STATE OF HAWAII

S.C.R. NO. 200

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION**

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADOPT NATIONAL CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION.

WHEREAS, United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres recently said, "Greenhouse gas emissions keep growing, global temperatures keep rising, and our planet is fast approaching tipping points that will make climate chaos irreversible. We are on a highway to climate hell with our foot on the accelerator"; and

WHEREAS, carbon dioxide is a major greenhouse gas and its concentration in the atmosphere has been increasing at progressively rapid rate for more than sixty years, as shown by measurements taken at observatories on Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea, and now registers at more than four hundred twenty parts per million, which is fifty percent higher than before the Industrial Revolution; and

WHEREAS, many climate change impacts are anticipated for the Hawaiian Islands, including increases in ocean and air temperatures, sea level rise, droughts, severe weather patterns, ocean acidification, and more frequent and severe wildfires; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change stated in the most recent report of its mitigation working group that any pathway to limit warming to two degrees Celsius would have to "involve rapid and deep and in most cases immediate greenhouse gas emissions reductions in all sectors"; and

WHEREAS, the United States needs powerful new policies to meet its greenhouse gas emission reduction goals established in the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement; and

WHEREAS, imposing a tax on the burning of fossil fuels and returning the revenues to households to spend as they see fit, a carbon-pricing policy commonly known as carbon fee and dividend, is

an effective and equitable way to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, carbon fee and dividend is supported by more than thirty-six hundred economists, including twenty-eight Nobel Laureates and fifteen former chairs of the Council of Economic Advisers, who signed a statement that begins, "A carbon tax offers the most cost-effective lever to reduce carbon emissions at the scale and speed that is necessary" and the statement continues, "to maximize the fairness and political viability of a rising tax, all the revenue should be returned directly to American citizens through equal lump-sum rebates"; and

WHEREAS, a national carbon-fee and dividend program can include border adjustments, such as carbon-content-based tariffs on products imported from countries without comparable carbon pricing and refunds to our exporters of carbon taxes paid, to maintain the competitiveness of United States businesses in global markets; and

WHEREAS, major trading partners of the United States like Canada and the European Union have adopted meaningful carbon taxes and are now considering carbon border adjustments to level the playing field by ensuring that imports are subject to the same carbon pricing as local goods; and

WHEREAS, a national carbon fee and dividend program can be implemented quickly and efficiently, and respond to the urgency of the climate crises, because the federal government already has in place mechanisms, such as the Internal Revenue Service, needed to implement and enforce the tax, and already collects taxes from fossil fuel producers and importers; and

WHEREAS, a national carbon fee and dividend program would make the United States a leader in mitigating climate change and the advancing of clean energy technologies in the 21st century, and would incentivize other countries to enact similar carbon pricing policies, thereby reducing global greenhouse gas emissions without the need for complex international agreements; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the House of Representatives concurring, that the United States Congress is urged to pass national carbon fee and dividend legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President and Vice-President of the United States, Speaker of the United States House

of Representatives, Majority Leader of the United States Senate,
and members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.