Pass a Carbon Pricing Bill

The science is clear: climate change is real, is worsened by human activity, and will continue to harm our communities without significant action. Congress has a moral obligation to protect vulnerable communities and seriously address climate change in a bipartisan fashion. Carbon pricing is one of many important policy tools Congress should use to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As the latest United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report states, “Explicit carbon prices remain a necessary condition of ambitious climate policies.”

» Many economists agree that pricing carbon is the most cost-effective lever to reduce carbon emissions at the scale and speed that is necessary.

» Emission targets should be set to be in line with the scientific community’s recommendations to avoid the catastrophic impacts of climate change. If reduction targets are not met, the price should increase.

» The legislation must ensure that the costs of a carbon price are not borne by marginalized and low-income communities.

» Polluters must not move operations to other countries to avoid paying for their emissions.

» Legislation should include reporting and transparency mechanisms to measure emission levels.

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