

October 21, 2019

The Honorable Jackie Speier
U.S. House of Representatives
2465 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Speier,

I am writing to express the City of San Mateo's support for H.R. 763 (Deutch), the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019. This bipartisan legislation would impose a fee on products that contribute to climate change, such as crude oil, gasoline and other products with carbon content.

Addressing the negative environmental, public health, and economic impacts of climate change has been a critical priority of our City Council. The state of California has been a tremendous leader in mitigating the impacts of climate change by supporting legislation that would reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote renewable technologies. In alignment with the State's leadership on climate issues, the City of San Mateo adopted a Climate Action Plan in 2015 and adopted a local green building amendment that required all new construction install solar in 2016. In addition to state and local efforts we know that federal action is necessary to adequately address the global causes and impacts of climate change.

H.R. 763 would impose a fee on the carbon content of fuels, including crude oil, natural gas, coal, or any other product derived from those fuels that emit greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. The fee, which begin at \$15 per metric ton of 2019 and increase by \$10 per metric ton each year, would be imposed on the producers or importers of the fuels and is equal to the greenhouse gas content of the fuel multiplied by the carbon rate.

The fees generated by H.R. 763, would be deposited into a Carbon Dividend Trust Fund and used for dividend payments to U.S. citizens or lawful residents and administrative fees. The fees must be decommissioned when emissions levels and monthly dividend payments fall below specified levels.

H.R. 763 is consistent with the City of San Mateo's Climate Action Plan, which includes goals to achieve deep greenhouse gas emissions reductions by 2030 and 2050 in order to ensure a safe, healthy planet for our residents.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Diane Papan
Mayor