



Climate Action Now of Western MA

CARBON PRICING: WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP PASS LEGISLATION IN MA

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| Learn about carbon pricing | Start with the webpage of the statewide <i>coalition</i> , Massachusetts Campaign for a Clean Energy Future (https://campaignforcleanenergyfuture.org/). |
| Learn about the two bills. (There are summaries on the coalition's website as well as links to the bills) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. 1821, <i>An Act Combating Climate Change</i>, sponsored by Senator Mike Barrett (D – Lexington) https://campaignforcleanenergyfuture.org/an-act-combating-climate-change/ • H. 1726, <i>An Act to Promote Green Infrastructure, Reduce Greenhouse Emissions, and Create Jobs</i>, sponsored by Representative Jen Benson (D – 37th Middlesex) https://campaignforcleanenergyfuture.org/an-act-to-promote-green-infrastructure-reduce-greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-create-jobs/ |
| Write or call Gov. Baker | If you want to do something quick, write or call the governor's office and urge him to support carbon pricing. (Governor Charlie Baker, Massachusetts State House, Office of the Governor, Room 280, Boston, MA 02133). Phone: 617-725-4005. |
| Spread the word | Show your support for carbon pricing on social media. You can like and share the page MA Clean Energy Future https://campaignforcleanenergyfuture.org/ Inform your family, friends and neighbors and ask them to support carbon pricing. |
| Write letters or op-eds to the editor of your local paper | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch for articles about climate, clean energy, or energy efficiency in your local paper. • Start your letter by referencing the specific article and then describe your support for carbon pricing. • Make it personal: why does it matter to you! |
| Increase your influence | Ask local leaders (town or city officials, professional organizations, business leaders, members of the clergy, professors, etc.) to publicly support carbon pricing through op-eds, press releases, or by providing quotes for letters to the editor. |
| Meet with or call your MA state legislators | This takes longer but has the most impact! Find your state legislators here: https://malegislature.gov/Search/FindMyLegislator |
| Plan your approach before you meet or call | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If planning a meeting, bring one or more other constituents. Meet with them first to plan the following: • Begin with a personal statement why you care about climate change. • Ask the legislator how much they know about the issue, have they taken a position, what views, issues, or questions they may have • Have a conversation; don't lecture; learn "where they are at" • Conclude with a specific action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If they're ready, ask them to support S1821 and H1726 by notifying the TUE Committee co-chairs (Sen. Barrett and Rep. Golden) ○ If they're not ready, summarize specific next steps to address their concerns or questions |
| Use experts | Ask a coalition member to accompany you on a visit to your legislator. (1) Marc Breslow, Ph.D., Policy and Research Director, Climate Xchange, mbreslow@Climate-XChange.org or info@CampaignForCleanEnergyFuture.org . (2) Mary Jo Maffei (see next row for contact info.) |
| Keep in touch | For more info about climate actions in Western MA, go to http://climateactionnowma.org/ . For Carbon Pricing , contact Mary Jo Maffei : (maryjomaffei22@gmail.com); Cell: (413) 259-1263. Let us know what you're doing! |



KEY MESSAGES ABOUT CARBON PRICING

- Carbon pricing will accelerate the change to clean energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Carbon pricing will create jobs in Massachusetts as less money will go out of state to pay for carbon based fuels.
 - \$20 Billion currently leaves the state to pay for fossil fuels supporting transportation and heating.
 - With carbon pricing this money would support clean energy jobs in MA, including making buildings more energy efficient and installing solar, wind, and other renewables.
- Carbon pricing will reduce greenhouse gas emissions caused by transportation and home heating.
 - We already have reduced power plant emissions through RGGI, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative...
 - But RGGI does not cover transportation and heating, which together account for more than half of MA's emissions.
- Carbon pricing will create cleaner air and reduce negative health impacts to residents from fossil fuels (e.g. asthma, heart disease, and other illnesses related to air pollution).
- Carbon pricing rebates for low and moderate income residents will on average be higher than their increased fuel costs. Most other residents will break even.
- Both bills have special provisions to be fair to residents who have low incomes or live in rural areas.