

6. **ON SUPPORT FOR THE ENERGY INNOVATION AND CARBON DIVIDEND ACT OF 2019**

Moderator Williams called on Diane Johnson of the Northern California Nevada Conference to present the recommended actions from Committee #5.

Diane Johnson moved, on behalf of Committee #5, to recommend that the resolution On Support for the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 as submitted.

Discussion:

There was no discussion.

19-GS-31 VOTED: The Thirty-second General Synod of the United Church of Christ adopts the resolution On Support for the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019.

(Vote: 647 Yes; 8 No; 10 Abstentions – 665 electronic submissions registered)

**ON SUPPORT FOR THE ENERGY INNOVATION AND
CARBON DIVIDEND ACT OF 2019**
A Resolution of Witness

Text of the Resolution

Whereas, climate change, caused largely by pollution from using fossil carbon, has caused problems from drought, severe storms, flooding, rising ocean levels, ocean acid increase, and species destruction; and

Whereas, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 was introduced into the U. S. House of Representatives on January 24, 2019, with bi-partisan cosponsors; and

Whereas, the 2017 UCC Synod passed "The Earth is the Lords, not Ours to Wreck," a resolution to combat climate change; and

Whereas, the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church supports a national tax on carbon-based fossil fuels based on the Carbon Fee and Dividend proposal of the Citizens' Climate Lobby; and

Whereas, the Presbyterian Church (USA) has supported climate action using a carbon dividend plan; and

Whereas, climate change threatens most those who are poor and least able to cope with the changes; and

Whereas, the United Church of Christ consistently favors uniting actions; and

Whereas, the fee and dividend approach of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 provides an effective reduction in fossil carbon pollution, is good for people, especially the poor, is good for the economy, is supported by members from both major parties, and is revenue neutral; and

Whereas, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 applies a fee on extraction of fossil carbon, returns the money to people as a dividend, supports fair international trade, and increases the fossil carbon fee yearly; and

Whereas, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 is bi-partisan and neither supports nor rejects other proposals related to climate change; it can co-exist non-competitively with such proposals;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Thirty-second General Synod of the United Church of Christ expresses its clear support for the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H. R. 763;

Be it further resolved that the Thirty-second General Synod encourages all settings of the United Church of Christ to seek ways to learn more about climate change and solutions;

Be it further resolved that the Thirty-second General Synod encourages the national setting of the United Church of Christ make available resources to learn about and engage with people of other faiths on climate change;

Be it finally resolved that the Thirty-second General Synod encourages members and settings of the United Church of Christ to speak out for energy innovations and conservation to reduce climate change.

Funding:

The funding for the implementation of the resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.

Implementation:

The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.

7. A RESOLUTION TO ABOLISH THE GROWTH AND EXISTENCE OF PRIVATE PRISONS

Moderator Williams called on Maria Brace of the Penn Northeast Conference to present the recommended actions from Committee #1.

Maria Brace moved, on behalf of Committee #1, to recommend that the Thirty-second General Synod of the United Church of Christ adopt the resolution to abolish the Growth and Existence of Private Prisons as amended by committee.