



A Carbon Tax in [Your State]?

What is a Carbon Tax?

A carbon tax is a price imposed on burning fossil fuels. Through carbon taxes, fossil fuel users pay for some of the climate damage caused by burning fossil fuels, which releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

That price motivates companies to switch to clean energy, making energy efficient tools more cost effective.

Why a Carbon Tax?

Because it matters! We need swift, comprehensive action on climate change now, and huge, immediate reductions in carbon emissions across the world are necessary in order to avoid widespread ecological destruction, political upheaval, erratic weather events, and general climate destabilization.

Right now, it is cheap and easy to burn fossil fuels, which makes it hard to incentivize the swift action on climate change the world desperately needs. *It shouldn't be cheap to burn fossil fuels:* the environmental impact of burning fossil fuels has long term costs, even though those costs aren't monetary.

A carbon tax makes energy efficient options appealing to companies, policymakers, and consumers: from investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy sources globally to riding your bike to work.

Why State Carbon Taxes Under Trump Matter More Than Ever

Though we need both a powerful federal carbon tax and a strong carbon tax internationally, state carbon tax initiatives are critical, especially with so little sound environmental policy moving on the national stage. State based carbon taxes provide a model that can build support with both the public and lawmakers, and establishes precedent for carbon taxes in critical states, especially in [YOUR STATE].

Who supports a carbon tax?



All sorts of people support a carbon tax, for a variety of different reasons. Businesses, environmentalists, energy efficiency advocates, and racial justice organizers all see the carbon tax as the fastest, most effective way to stop climate change.

Why a Carbon Tax in...?

MD?

- Low industrial-sector emissions
- A liberal citizenry and legislature is
- #9 among 50 states in per-capita solar PV
- Experience with carbon pricing through participation in RGGI.

IL?

- Citizens and legislature are liberal-to-very-liberal and supportive on climate issues
- State ranks #4 in polling support for a carbon tax (just below 50%).

NY?

- Very low industrial-sector emissions
- Very liberal citizenry
- Legislature is generally supportive on climate issues
- #2 ranking among 50 states in polling support for carbon taxes

HI?

- Low industrial-sector emissions
- Very liberal citizenry and legislature
- #1 among 50 states in per-capita solar PV
- Excellent opportunities for renewable power in general
- Carbon taxes have polled above 50%.

MA?

- Very low industrial-sector emissions
- Very liberal citizenry and legislature
- Strong voter climate concern
- #5 among 50 states in per-capita solar PV
- Strong and well-crafted carbon tax measures will be heard in both houses of the legislature in 2017.

CT?

- Low industrial-sector emissions
- Climate-concerned legislature and citizenry
- A carbon tax bill has been introduced in the legislature.



DC?

- Zero industrial-sector CO2 emissions
- Citizens are very liberal and climate-supportive
- Carbon taxes have polled above 50%
- Relatively high solar PV
- Ballot measure option available
- Active carbon tax campaign underway.

WA?

- Low industrial-sector emissions
- Citizens and legislature are liberal and fairly concerned about climate
- Fielded first U.S. carbon tax ballot measure last fall
- Ongoing efforts for carbon tax legislation by popular governor, members of the legislature and strong citizens organizations.