



Chairwoman Jennifer Benson's Bill H.2810

"An Act to Promote Green Infrastructure and Reduce Carbon Emissions"

- Grows the clean energy economy, green tech innovation, and thousands of new green jobs
- Reduces pollution that drives climate change and its \$ billions of health and infrastructure costs
- Protects low and moderate-income citizens
- Provides local governments with funds to invest in green infrastructure, and
- **Already has 95 cosponsors in the House of Representatives and 11 cosponsors in the Senate**

Why science-based, equitable carbon pricing?

As Massachusetts and the world experience worsening storms and other climate-related disasters and federal environmental action falters, states must take the lead on policies that measurably reduce greenhouse gas pollution and catalyze a comprehensive climate movement. Youth, scientists, economists, and advocates all agree that making the fossil fuel industry pay for their pollution is critical part of the climate solution that augments other policies and ethically funds a just transition.

Why H.2810?

Our Climate supports carbon pricing policies that meet the following [principles](#):

1. Are strong and grow over time, guaranteeing science-based emissions reductions;
2. Apply to all types of greenhouse gas emissions (carbon dioxide, methane, etc.);
3. Are equitable and just, protecting vulnerable communities;
4. have a durable price and revenue plan that doesn't benefit climate change-causing industries.

Chairwoman Jennifer Benson's [H.2810](#) meets our principles. This bill will discourage the use of polluting fossil fuels by levying fees on their import and **rebating 70% of the revenue raised from the fee back to citizens and businesses**, shielding them from price hikes. The remaining 30% will be invested in a **Green Infrastructure Fund (GIF)** to finance projects that make it easier for citizens and businesses to make affordable, climate-friendly choices. H.2810 addresses all 4 of our principles:

1. Fees start at \$20/ton of pollution and increases by \$5/ton/year. If in 5 years, MA meets its pollution reductions targets, the price caps at \$40/ton. If not, **the price will increase by an additional \$5/ton/year until targets are met.**
2. Fees are not just levied for carbon-dioxide emissions but also for natural gas leaks.
3. **Rebates are weighted by income**, the GIF funds community-led infrastructure projects in local cities and towns, and **40% of those projects must benefit low-income residents and communities.** Rural communities and vulnerable industries also receive additional rebates;
4. The emissions fee mechanism ensures that only polluters pay, while the rebates ensure that the price is politically and financially durable.

As a youth-led organization, Our Climate advocates for policies like H.2810 that protect a livable planet for the generations most vulnerable to climate change. Thank you for joining us in support of this bill.

