



Legislation Summary:

An Act to promote green infrastructure, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create jobs

Initial bill number: [H1726](#) (Bill numbers will change as legislation proceeds.)

Sponsors: Rep. Jennifer Benson

This bill would establish a carbon-fee-and-rebate system, with rebates focused on low- and moderate-income households to assure that a high percentage of these households come out ahead or even. Additionally, it would use 20% of the revenues to fund green infrastructure directly, including transportation improvements, renewable energy, energy efficiency, and protection against the expected impacts of climate change.

Passing a carbon pricing bill in Massachusetts would achieve these critical outcomes:

- reducing climate-changing greenhouse gas emissions;
- protecting vulnerable residents and businesses;
- stimulating the state's economy by keeping energy dollars within Massachusetts and through growth in the technology, innovation and renewable energy sectors;
- promoting renewable energy jobs and businesses;
- advancing the transition to a renewable energy future for a habitable world.

The evidence is in and the debate is over regarding the reality, impact and causes of climate change. Numerous economists, scientists, and political leaders on [different sides of the political spectrum](#) agree that carbon pricing is the surest and simplest immediate tool for significantly reducing carbon dioxide emissions in the near term, while supporting the transition to clean, renewable energy sources and a clean energy economy. Additionally, the success of carbon pricing through the experience of other countries and of British Columbia offers a significant demonstration of carbon pricing's immediate and longer-range effectiveness.