

Submission date 3/3/2022

HEARING DATE: 3/10/2022

BILL: HB171 - **SPONSOR:** Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo
TITLE: Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act (CCEJ)
POSITION: Favorable
COMMITTEE: Economic Matters and Environment and Transportation

Super Bowl LVI: Fossils versus Renewables

Pat George (announcer): Here we are at the Super Bowl. The Fossils have dominated for a 100-years. If you think about it, they've done a lot of good. We can jump in our cars and drive anywhere, gas is still cheap, we snap our fingers and the lights come on. We have a lot to thank them for.

Fred Arnold (sidekick): I used to be a Fossil fan, I sure like cheap gas, but my kid explained that a gallon of gasoline weighs about 6 pounds. Burning 6 pounds of gasoline produces 20 pounds of carbon dioxide, which floats up in the atmosphere for 100 years. Who knew?

Pat: So, what difference does it make if carbon-dioxide floats in the sky? The sky is big!

Fred: My daughter showed me that as more and more carbon dioxide floats in the stratosphere it turns into an invisible blanket. Photons from the sun, instead of bouncing off the earth and going harmlessly into space, bounce up and hit carbon dioxide molecules and makes them vibrate – apparently the vibration of molecules causes heat. So, burning fossil fuels is making the earth heat up. Who knew?

Pat: Well, if it really was a threat to our way of life, you'd think someone would do something.

Fred: My daughter says we need to pass the Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act (CCEJ) which will make it more expensive to burn fossil fuels so that market forces will encourage renewables. This approach, called a fee-and-dividend carbon tax, was developed by a conservative think tank. Who knew?

For these reasons and more, I urge a FAVORABLE REPORT on HB171, Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act (CCEJ).

Respectfully submitted,

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Cc: Members of the Economic Matters and Environment and Transportation Committees