

Equitable Green Investment in Our Communities

As a commonwealth, we have placed a significant focus on cutting our climate change-causing pollution from electricity, but we need to have a comprehensive approach to address other sectors. Transportation and heating represent a disproportionate share of our emissions as a state, in addition to being an increasing financial strain on low-income people. We need to address these problems while providing better opportunities that build our communities and invest in our low and middle-income families.

H.2810: An Act to Promote Green Infrastructure and Reduce Carbon Emissions (Rep. Benson)

This bill would establish a direct carbon price on transportation and home heating fuels to fund significant green municipal investment while providing additional assistance to individuals and employers in the form of rebates. This bill would:

- Set aside 30% of the proceeds (\$400-600 million annually) for a Green Infrastructure Bank to fund local and regional emission-reducing projects. 40% of this money would be targeted specifically for low-income communities, and ensuring that all projects funded by the GIF would meet Fair Labor Standards.
- Return the remaining 70% of the money to individuals and employers in the form of income-based rebates to guard against regressive impacts on low and middle income residents such as delivering rebates twice a year before the heating and cooling season.

S.2106/H.3008 An Act to Advance Modern and Sustainable Solutions for Transportation (Rep Ehrlich and Sen Lesser): This policy is part of a region-wide approach, similar to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative(RGGI), that uses the money generated by price on transportation fuels to drive down our climate pollution from that sector and encourage adoption of solutions to make our transportation system better and more just. To protect vulnerable communities, this bill would form a commission with substantial representation from those communities. Specifically, it aims to:

- Ensure the allocation of revenue is informed by the needs of vulnerable communities and that the money goes where communities want it
- Provide sufficient protections for low income, Environmental Justice, and other vulnerable communities and ensure that the policy outcomes are progressive rather than regressive

The MPF coalition has made it a top priority to ensure that the climate policies we support are just & equitable.