

Inland Empire

Citizens Action Committee

Associate Groups

Chaffey Republican
Women's Federated

Mountainview
Republicans

Relands Tea Party
Patriots

Chino Tea Party

Banning- Beaumont,
Cherry Valley Tea Party

Freedom Tea Party
Patriots

Redlands Town Hall

High Desert Tea Party

Norco-Corona Tea Party

Foothill Tax Payers
Association

May 3, 2017

To: The Honorable Chad Mayes, District 42
assemblymember.mayes@assembly.ca.gov - (916) 319-2042

Subject: Cap-and-Trade—LA Times Article: The fight against climate change in California gains an unlikely ally: Republicans—Clarification of Position

Inland Empire Citizens Action Committee (IECAC) is a coalition of several conservative groups in the Inland Empire. We reject the San Bernardino Countywide Vision and have signed resolutions condemning this because it embraces the progressive agenda of sustainable development (SD); hence, it embraces centralized planning as evidenced in the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), which are recommendations being used by cities, counties and unelected Councils of Governments (GOGs) and stakeholder groups across the State. As citizens and constituents, we oppose SCS and SD. Cap-and-trade is a SD program.

The platform of the Republican National Committee and California Republican Party are opposed to the agenda of sustainability and sustainable development. The San Bernardino Republican Central Committee has a resolution opposing this agenda. *Republicans need to be aware of this because if they support for these kinds of programs, they will opposing their party.*

In his article for the LA Times dated 4-27-2017, titled, "The fight against climate change in California gains an unlikely ally: Republicans"¹, author Chris Megerian identifies you as part of a Republican caucus working with Democrats regarding the cap-and-trade program. He states:

"...he wants to work with Democrats on *extending* the cap-and-trade program, which requires companies to buy permits to release emissions into the atmosphere."

Conversely, "Mayes opposes a Democratic proposal to modify the cap-and-trade program so it addresses both greenhouse gases and pollutants that cause public health problems such as asthma."

The *primary driver* of SD is social justice. This is denoted in the article, “... Democrats are increasingly aligned with environmental justice advocates who want to merge climate policies with stricter regulations to address pollution concerns in disadvantaged communities.”

“It would be foolish not to engage,” said Mayes, who has huddled with a cadre of Assembly Republicans to *start developing their own ideas about limiting the price of emission permits and using the program’s revenue for tax credits or rebates.*

Governor Brown claims that President Trump states that climate change is a hoax, “Mayes said that doesn’t apply to him, acknowledging the reality of climate change and humanity’s contributions to the problem.”

In a 2-1 decision on 3-30-2017, the 3rd District Court of Appeal in Sacramento, determined that cap-and-trade is not a tax; however, this does not eliminate all the legal and political questions that have dogged the program. More challenges remain for the cap-and-trade program, which was created under a 2006 measure requiring the state to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels. Because the law sets a 2020 deadline, some doubt regulators can continue running the program past that point without a new law.”

We are seeking clarification on your positions.

- 1, Specifically, what does this statement mean: “*he wants to work with Democrats on extending the cap-and-trade program.*”? Are you working on a “new Law?”
2. Please expand: “*...start developing their own ideas about limiting the price of emission permits and using the program’s revenue for tax credits or rebates.*”
3. Please cite specific research supporting your claim regarding climate change: “*...acknowledge[s] the reality of climate change and humanity’s contributions to the problem.*”
4. Do you support social justice as defined by environmentalists and supported by agencies and Democrats?
5. Who are the representatives in your caucus?

Sincerely,

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CC: Inland Empire Citizens Action Committee

Sources:

1 The fight against climate change in California gains an unlikely ally: Republicans: LA Times, by Chad Megerian, 4-27-2017
<http://www.latimes.com/politics/la-pol-sac-republican-climate-change-20170427-story.html>