



# Citizens' Climate Lobby Citizens' Climate Education



## ACTION SHEET, JULY 2020

Monthly Meeting, Saturday, July 11, 2020  
10:00 a.m. Pacific / 1:00 p.m. Eastern

### Three Ways to Join

- To connect by video conference, go to [cclusa.org/meeting](https://cclusa.org/meeting) (**NOTE:** this links to meeting ID# 95498355745)  
**Note:** To improve audio/video quality, close all applications and other browser windows  
**Note:** See [these instructions](#) to see how to turn on closed captions and adjust the font size
- To connect by phone: If you have unlimited calling, call 1-646-558-8656; otherwise you can call toll-free at 1-877-369-0926. Enter 954-9835-5745 as the meeting ID
- To watch a livestream go to: [cclusa.org/livestream](https://cclusa.org/livestream)

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### MONTHLY MEETING GUEST

#### Dr. Renee Lertzman, environmental psychologist



Feeling anxious and overwhelmed about climate change and our ability to solve the problem? Our guest this month, environmental psychologist Dr. Renee Lertzman, says we have a window of tolerance that, once we exceed it, causes us to shut down. Turning to the tools of psychology, we can acknowledge the feelings of anxiety that can immobilize us and create conditions that allow us to show up as our brilliant selves. Dr. Lertzman's unique and integrated approach brings

together the best of the behavioral sciences, social sciences and innovative design sciences to create a powerful approach to engagement and social change.

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### Actions for your virtual chapter gathering

1. [Ask prominent community leaders to show support for the bill](#)
2. [Invite your member of Congress to a joint virtual CCL meeting](#)
3. [Bonus Social Media Action: Tweet thanks to the Growing Climate Solutions Act cosponsors](#)
4. [Communication exercise: Practice talking about the dividend part of H.R.763](#)

If your Action Sheet is printed and you'd like to be able to click the links, you can download this Action Sheet at [cclusa.org/actionsheet](https://cclusa.org/actionsheet). There's a Spanish version of the Action Sheet there too!

# Ask prominent community leaders to show support for the bill

## GRASSTOPS ACTION

At our June 13 Virtual Conference, Dr. Danny Richter asked us to get lots of prominent community leaders to show support for the bill in 2020. Start by reviewing the results of your lobby meetings and ask yourselves what endorsements would be most useful to build support with your member of Congress. Then consider what prominent community leaders would you most love to have in your November virtual lobby meeting? If yours is a big chapter, gather in a breakout room or on a separate Zoom line with volunteers interested in Grasstops Outreach. If yours is a small chapter, get everyone involved!

### Do some research to identify community leaders who will be persuasive to your members of Congress

- Review your lobby meeting minutes to pick your targets. Review your lobby meeting notes to discern which community leaders will be most useful in building support from your members of Congress (MOCs).
- Examine your MOC's social media and website. To learn more about who your MOC listens to, check out their tweets, Facebook posts and their congressional website, which is at a URL similar to *lastname.house.gov* or *lastname.senate.gov*. Press releases are often especially informative. What does this research tell you about the types of community leaders who influence your MOCs?

You can find more detailed guidance on CCL Community's [Focusing your Grasstops Outreach](#), and [Engaging Community Leaders](#) training pages.

### Then discover connections and make a plan for who will engage them this month

- Discover existing connections. Who in your chapter has a connection to the community leaders on your list? What other pathways can you pursue to get a warm introduction to your target community leaders?
- Make a plan for who will engage with the community leaders. Add to your spreadsheet the volunteers who will make contact and ask them to find and review the community leader's bio in advance.
- Meet with the community leader and identify some specific actions. During your first call or Zoom meeting, express appreciation, ask open-ended questions, and look for where you might work together. When the relationship is ready for it, work with the community leader to determine what they can do to show their bill support to their MOCs. Here are some possibilities:
  - Schedule a personal call or a Zoom meeting with their Representative, Senator or a newspaper editor
  - Meet with their Representative or Senator with your help facilitating a CCL virtual lobby meeting
  - Write an op-ed or coauthor an op-ed with your chapter
  - Host a virtual site visit or business roundtable for a Representative or Senator to discuss climate
  - Talk about climate solutions at their Chamber, professional group, Rotary, union or trade association
  - Engage their colleagues to take an action that supports CCL and the bill
  - Endorse the bill at [energyinnovationact.org/endorse](https://energyinnovationact.org/endorse)

### Resources

- CCL Community's [Bringing Community Leaders to your Lobby Meeting](#) training page
- Ask questions on CCL Community's [Grasstops Outreach Sitewide Forum](#)

# Invite your members of Congress to a joint virtual CCL meeting

## LOBBY ACTION

Members of Congress are looking for ways to connect with constituents during this time of social distancing, and you can help them do that! Zoom makes it easy to gather a large crowd of volunteers in one meeting, so spend time this month planning a large joint CCL meeting in August with one of your members of Congress. The goal of this event is to show CCL's strength to your incumbent member of Congress and to encourage them to talk about bipartisanship. Who is the most strategic member of Congress for you to invite?

### At your online gathering

Decide which MOC to focus on, come up with a date, and work with the liaison to create an invitation. Be sure to include a **main topic** in your invite, tailored to the interests of your MOC:

- Climate, energy, conservation and the environment
- Bipartisanship in Congress
- How has your office adapted to the pandemic and how should we work with you

Republicans in particular will likely need a range of topics to feel comfortable attending.

Steps to plan your meeting (also watch this [CCL training live on July 9](#), or after July 9, [watch the recording](#))

1. Coordinate with CCL chapters in the district (Representative) and in the state (Senators).
2. Collaborating with the liaison, identify an appointment setter and meeting planner for each meeting.
3. As a team, select a main topic, create an agenda and pick a date during the Congressional August recess.
4. Work with the liaison to create an invitation for your member of Congress.
5. Invite all of the CCLers in the district/state. This is for you, so it's best not to invite non-CCL allies.
6. Collect everyone's questions in advance and select the ones you will ask during the meeting. Allowing impromptu questions during the meeting is risky because it could take your meeting off topic.
7. Have a dress rehearsal in advance with a volunteer playing the role of the MOC. Volunteers who are managing security as Zoom co-hosts should be able to avoid/contain Zoom bombing.

### Additional Resource

- CCL Community's [How to host Zoom meetings](#) and [Practicing video conference security](#) training pages

## Tweet thanks to the Growing Climate Solutions Act cosponsors

### BONUS SOCIAL MEDIA ACTION

Republicans and Democrats worked together to create and introduce the bicameral, bipartisan Growing Climate Solutions Act, S.3894, H.R.7393. Tweet thanks to the House and Senate bill cosponsors using [cclusa.org/gcsa-thanks](https://cclusa.org/gcsa-thanks), an easy-to-use tool that is automatically populated with their twitter handles and this message: "Thank you for taking bipartisan climate action and cosponsoring the Growing Climate Solutions Act. #BipartisanClimate legislation is key to addressing climate change." You could also write your own post on your preferred social media platform. Just be sure to tag some key offices — like Sen. Braun, Sen. Stabenow, Rep. Spanberger, or Rep. Bacon — so they see your appreciative words!

# Practice talking about the dividend part of H.R.763

## COMMUNICATION EXERCISE

Equal cash payments to households from the I.R.S. is in the news and on many of our minds, so now is a good time for us to get ready to talk about the dividend part of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. This communication exercise is designed to be used in breakout rooms as part of your online meeting.

Note: To learn how to put people into breakout rooms, see [Zoom's training page on "Breakout Rooms"](#)

1) Paste the "Dividend" paragraphs below into the chat so people can read it from there. Note that you'll have to paste it into the chat in two pieces because Zoom has a paste limit of 950 characters. Attendees can also find the paragraphs on the last page of this action sheet at [cclusa.org/actionsheet](https://cclusa.org/actionsheet).

2) Read these instructions to your group.

In the breakout room, take turns reading the paragraphs in the chat out loud to your partner. After you have each read the paragraphs, say in your own words what you can remember about the dividend. You'll have 6 minutes total for practicing, so each person has 3 minutes.

3) Put everyone into breakout rooms, two people per room, for six minutes.

4) When everyone comes back together, ask a few people to share what they found useful.

### The Dividend

When Congress is able to turn its attention to climate change again, it should remember one lesson learned from the COVID-19 pandemic: direct cash payments are a simple, transparent, and fair way to support Americans when economic winds are shifting.

Over the next 10 years, America needs to move from a fossil fuel-based economy to a clean energy economy. By planning to give cash payments to Americans, we can ensure the health of our economy while making a gentle transition to a clean energy future. Here's how. Congress could put a price on carbon pollution, driving our economy away from fossil fuels and toward clean energy sources, and it could rebate that money as an equal cash payment, or "dividend," to all Americans each month. When dividends are given to everyone on a regular basis, regardless of their income status, low- and middle-income Americans benefit dramatically. Cash dividends are transparent and easy to track, unlike tax offsets.

It's clear that money in the hands of Americans helps keep our economy running. That's why Congress and the President are using this tool in the current crisis. When we've dealt with COVID-19, let's use that same tool to combat climate change.