



Dupont Summit 2016

Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy Issues

December 2, Historic Whittemore House, Washington, DC

Panel

“Transpartisan Climate Protection: How Strange Bedfellows Can Boost Jobs and Cut Climate Pollution”

A new administration and a new Congress will bring opportunities for tax reform and for addressing climate change. While almost all politicians say they want greater job growth and a fairer tax system, not all are willing to tackle climate change. Yet, there is a way to tackle both tax reform and climate protection. The most regressive federal tax and the one that hits most working Americans the hardest is the payroll tax. This tax – paid half by employers and half by workers – pays for Social Security and a major portion of Medicare – popular and important programs. Our transpartisan panelists propose offsetting this tax on work and hiring with a tax on carbon. This “tax shift” reduces businesses’ costs of hiring and raises workers’ take home pay. Both stimulate the economy. The offsetting carbon tax will raise fossil fuel energy costs, stimulating both investment in innovation and efficiency as well as adoption of cleaner alternatives. This will benefit public health and reduce climate-damaging pollution.

Organizer

June Taylor, *Get America Working*

Moderator

Rob Wolcott, *Get America Working*

Panelists

Jerry Taylor, *Niskanen Center*

Brent Blackwelder, *Friends of the Earth, former president*