

## **A Bill to Facilitate Economic Degrowth to Make America Sustainable**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States federal government shall implement policies to reduce the size of the economy to an ecologically sustainable level.

- A. All people in the United States shall be guaranteed access to degrowth-friendly public sector jobs.
- B. The Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 shall be amended to reduce the standard workweek to 32 hours per week.
- C. A “cap-and-share” regime shall be adopted for greenhouse gas emissions.

**SECTION 2.** All people who live in the United States and are older than 18 years old shall be unconditionally guaranteed a job. Jobs shall pay at least a yearly wage equivalent to the poverty line for a family of four, and include health insurance, retirement plans, paid family and sick leave, and one week of paid vacation per three months worked, for all full-time workers. Necessary job training shall be provided on-site. Jobs shall be tailored to ecological needs, community needs and the needs of the jobseeker.

**SECTION 3.** Employers shall not reduce total compensation to their workers, including from benefits, due to the amended standard workweek.

**SECTION 4.** Cap-and-share is defined as a system whereby a budget of CO<sub>2</sub>eq emissions for the United States is equally rationed among each individual United States citizen through emissions permits.

- A. People may choose to exchange permits, including with institutions.
- B. The lifetime CO<sub>2</sub>eq emissions impact of imported goods shall be calculated and subject to the same cap system.

**SECTION 5.** The Department of Labor (DOL), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) shall collaborate to implement this bill.

- A. The DOL shall establish a National Investment Employment Corps (NIEC) with local branches that consult community leaders to create jobs. The EPA shall advise the NIEC on environmental priorities.
- B. The EPA shall set the emissions budget at 10% less than the total budget for the previous year, starting with the total United States emissions of fiscal year 2025. The EPA shall create and distribute permits and punish violators at its discretion.
- C. The IRS shall set brackets that scale the marginal income tax rate up to 100% past incomes greater than 10 times the minimum wage, and implement a wealth tax, with marginal rates scaling to 100% past wealth greater than 100 times the median annual wage. Assets worth more than the wealth cap shall partially become public property, and the federal government will collect rent capped at 35% of income. Revenue will be allocated to the implementation of this legislation.

**SECTION 6.** This legislation will take effect beginning in fiscal year 2026.

**SECTION 7.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void