As Taylor Swift would say: Everything has changed. limate change is here. My constituents are being hit with record tornados. Judge Wilkes’s are burning in forest fires, Senator Karim’s are being ravaged by hurricanes and Taylor Swift is getting hit with brutal tropical storms. But don’t let the waves on our shore erode your judgment. If you care about the future of our country, show it with your ballot.

**I want to address negative arguments right away**

First, Sen \_\_\_ tells you this bill economically burdens low-income Americans. But as Taylor Swift would say, you need to calm down, because in the long term, green energy is far cheaper.

[**International Renewable Energy Agency, June 2021**](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/07/renewables-cheapest-energy-source/)

⅔ of renewable choices are already cheaper than fossil fuels with solar, in particular, is reaching energy prices less than a 1/10 of fossil fuels

But further, ask yourself: what’s more important the economic status of your constituents, or their lives? If you want to raise people out of poverty just pair this bill with the minimum wage from prelims.

But third, Sen \_\_ tells you that a carbon tax does not reduce emissions. This is empirically false. Rep., the same tax policy center study that you cite in your speech literally says that a carbon tax significantly reduces the impacts of climate change. But further, I want to spend the remainder of my speech showing why this argument is untrue

**The primary reason you pass this legislation is it increases investment into renewable energy.**

This is true for two reasons

* First, a carbon tax and the elimination of oil subsidies make oil a worse investment, while increasing research makes green tech a better attractive option. As a result, investors divest into renewable energy.
  + [**A Peer-Reviewed META Study of the 9 largest carbon taxes in history from The European Research Council writes in 2020 -**](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/wcc.681) **Carbon taxes increase green tech investment by 36%**
* This bill literally invests that money into research, further increasing investment
  + [**The Guardian, 2019**](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/aug/01/fossil-fuel-subsidy-cash-pay-green-energy-transition)
  + Just 10% of oil subsidy money would pay for the entire green transition

Two impacts, you reduce climate change, saving lives. [**The Guardian found on July 15, 2021 -**](https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2000/jul/16/anthonybrowne.theobserver1) **In the past 3 years alone, climate change has claimed 100,000 lives.** Rep. Wu, we don’t have time to wait for cap and trade, when our constituents are dying. Rep. Raval and Athreya, No economic argument can compare to this

And it’s even more serious than that

[Green Matters, March 11th, 2021](https://www.greenmatters.com/p/will-global-warming-cause-extinction#:~:text=Eventually%2C%20yes.,to%20life%20on%20this%20planet.)

If unaddressed climate change will eventually lead to extinction

**Sen. \_\_\_, that includes Taylor Swift**

**Sen. \_\_, when extinction hits, we can’t just shake it off**

**And no Sen \_\_, we are not ready for it,**

But second, it helps prevent nuclear war

[**The Nation, January 13th, 2020**](https://www.thenation.com/article/archive/nuclear-defense-climate-change/)

Climate change would cause extreme drought which would devastate agriculture and unleash social chaos in Pakistan, allowing terrorists to seize some of the country’s 150 nuclear weapons. Leading to full out global thermonuclear war

[Federation of American Scientists, 2015](https://fas.org/pir-pubs/nuclear-war-nuclear-winter-and-human-extinction/)

Nuclear winter would cause most humans and large animals to die from nuclear famine in a mass extinction event similar to the one that wiped out the dinosaurs

There may be fires burning on the west coast, but if you fail this bill, the only thing that will be left is ash and rubble and we truly will never ever get back together.