

MOSCOW-PULLMAN DAILY NEWS

Letter: Who supports action on climate?

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A recent letter to the editor (Varnell Williams, "Climate smells fishy," March 5) implied that leftists are the proponents of action on human-caused climate change, but leftists are not alone. Other supporters include Art Laffer, conservative economist and senior adviser to President Ronald Reagan; Gregory Mankiw, economic advisor to President George W. Bush and Mitt Romney; Katharine Hayhoe, evangelical Christian and climate scientist; and Douglas Holtz-Eakin, president of a conservative think tank and adviser to Sen. John McCain.

Supporters also include most Americans. A January 2015 poll by the New York Times, Stanford University and Resources for the Future found 81 percent of those

polled agree climate change is caused by human activity, and 71 percent of Republicans agree.

The recent letter implied NOAA and NASA altered data to convince us climate change is real. The letter did not mention the Department of Defense is another agency that accepts the scientific reality of climate change. They are preparing for worsening world conflicts as global warming causes increases in terrorism, infectious disease, global food shortages and violent storms.

Republican George ^{*}Schultz, an economist who served as secretary of labor under President Richard Nixon and secretary of state under Reagan, supports "revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend" legislation to limit human-caused

climate change. This simple proposal uses market forces, not government regulations, to find low-carbon solutions to our carbon pollution problems. For more information, check out Citizens' Climate Lobby and sign up for their weekly introductory call at citizensclimatelobby.org

If scientists, leftists, and other supporters are wrong about humans as the primary cause of global warming, then the carbon fee and dividend legislation will simply hasten the inevitable transition away from fossil fuels. There is no major downside. If they are right, then the only prudent option is to act now.

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(*Oops. I apologize for spelling his name wrong. It should be Schultz.)