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Inglis seeking global warming bill to co-sponsor

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U.S. Rep. Bob Inglis told *The Greenville News* that he's researching global warming issues and plans to decide by the first of the year which congressional bill to co-sponsor.

The National Wildlife Federation is urging him and other representatives who've indicated an interest in global warming to co-sponsor strong bills, according to a federation prepared statement.

"I appreciate the encouragement and plan to sign onto a bill," Inglis said. "The question is which one."

He said, "It's a significant piece of legislation. We're talking major impact on the United States, and really, the world economy."

Advertisement The Republican congressman from South Carolina and his staff are consulting experts, some issues involving world trade and the economy.

Two keys, in his opinion: "It's not acceptable to me unless there is a way of getting India and China subject to the system."

And, "I would be looking for a revenue-neutral carbon tax," he said. "Poor people would be hit particularly hard with a carbon tax with older cars, for example, and maybe less efficient heating systems in their houses."

A way to ameliorate that could be to reduce payroll taxes, he said.

Burning fossil fuels releases carbon into the atmosphere and can contribute to global warming, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

The wildlife federation supports the Safe Climate Act and Climate Stewardship Act in the U.S. House, which would encourage alternative energy innovation and cut global warming enough by mid-century to avoid catastrophic climate change, federation spokeswoman Lisa Swann wrote in a press release.

In the Senate, U.S. Sens. Joseph Lieberman, Ind-Conn., and John Warner, R-Va., introduced a bipartisan-supported bill, America's Climate Security Act, which they say would avert catastrophic global climate change while enhancing America's energy security, according to Lieberman's Web site.
