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Alliance for Market Solutions Launches Initiative to Build the Conservative Case for a Clean-Energy Future

Washington, D.C. – Today, an alliance of conservative Republican leaders announced <u>a new initiative</u> to encourage a conversation among fellow conservatives on the benefits of market-oriented solutions to one of America's most pressing economic challenges: advancing clean energy and reducing carbon pollution.

The Alliance for Market Solutions (AMS) <u>comprises</u> prominent business, government, and thought leaders who bring fresh perspectives to this challenge. Public opinion and demographics are changing — especially among young voters — and Republicans need a proactive response to concerns about carbon pollution.

Carbon regulations will inevitably grow bureaucracy and harm growth unless a fundamentally new, market-based approach is adopted. AMS backs a policy that would eliminate harmful current and future regulations, replacing them with a revenue-neutral carbon tax policy that would let markets instead of government allocate resources, stimulate innovation and capital investment, support clean energy, and effectively reduce carbon pollution. Critically, this approach, when paired with <u>pro-growth tax reforms</u>, would produce higher economic growth than current regulatory policies.

"For conservatives looking to grow the economy, promote clean energy, and grow the vote, the next few years are the right time to begin building a thoughtful policy and political basis for future action. We can't simply disengage, or eventually we'll find the proponents of expansive regulation again setting the agenda, and our nation's prosperity will suffer," said AMS Executive Director Alex Flint. Flint previously served as Senior Vice President of Governmental Affairs at the Nuclear Energy Institute and as Republican Staff Director for the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources.

Today, AMS released its first publication: <u>Carbon Tax Policy: A Conservative Dialogue on Pro-Growth Opportunities</u>. The book brings together conservative policy experts to address how a carbon tax would work and why it is preferable to regulations. AMS is also releasing <u>new research</u>, produced for the Alliance by tax experts at EY, showing the positive growth impact of

replacing rules and regulations for controlling carbon pollution with a market-based carbon tax policy.

"When it comes to carbon pollution, conservatives must find effective and pro-growth solutions. The aim of Carbon Tax Policy is to be a resource for that important work," said Alex Brill, the book's editor and a research fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. Brill, who previously served as policy director and chief economist on the Republican staff of the U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means, will also assist AMS with its research agenda going forward.

"This is a reasonable, free-market, and conservative solution to carbon pollution," said former U.S. Senator, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, and AMS Board of Advisors member Mel Martinez (R-FL). "With Americans expecting leaders to take meaningful action, our proposal is a pro-growth and pro-jobs answer to clean energy and carbon pollution."

AMS also today unveiled a website with more information about its mission, available at www.allianceformarketsolutions.org.

"Today's announcement will encourage an open dialogue to build a foundation for greater understanding and future action on clean energy and carbon pollution. AMS will contribute to it with fresh research and analysis to bring a pro-growth, conservative perspective to the table," said Flint.

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The Alliance for Market Solutions (AMS) aims to create a conversation among conservatives on the benefits of market-oriented solutions to one of America's pressing economic challenges: advancing clean energy and reducing carbon pollution. AMS believes in the need for progrowth solutions for our economy, replacing harmful government regulations, and responding to changing public attitudes and demographics. Learn more at www.allianceformarketsolutions.org.