

Amendment to the Chairman's Mark

Offered by Representatives Wasserman Schultz, Yarmuth, Lee, Lujan Grisham, Moulton, Higgins, DelBene, Boyle, Khanna, Jayapal, Carbajal, Jackson Lee, and Schakowsky

Combat Climate Change

1. At the end of Title V, add the following:

“POLICY STATEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

(a) FINDINGS. — The House finds the following:

(1) **Climate change is real.** The planet's average surface temperature has risen two degrees Fahrenheit since the late 19th century because of increased carbon dioxide and other human-made emissions in the atmosphere. Most of the warming occurred in the past 35 years, with 16 of the 17 warmest years on record occurring since 2001. Not only was 2016 the warmest year on record, but eight of the 12 months were the warmest on record for those respective months.

(2) **Climate change is caused by human actions.** Ninety-seven percent of actively publishing climate scientists agree that humans are causing global warming and climate change. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a group of 1,300 independent scientific experts from all over the world, determined there is more than 95 percent probability that human activities over the past 50 years have warmed the planet.

(3) **Climate change will have a huge impact on the federal budget.** Rising sea levels, warming oceans, and more frequent and damaging storms influence both the fiscal outlook of the nation and the economy at large. Climate change threatens crop yields, infrastructure, water and energy supplies, and human health. Climate change poses risks to federal property and resources, increases potential outlays from flood and crop insurance, and creates looming disaster assistance needs.

(4) **The current Administration is hampering efforts to fight climate change.** The Trump Administration not only denies that climate change exists, it actively pursues policies that will make the problem worse – and more expensive in the long run. The President's 2019 budget again cut funding for agencies responsible for studying climate change and researching renewable energy. The Administration has gone so far as to ban the words “climate change” from federal

websites and agency strategic plans, news releases, and internal communications, and it seeks to roll back several Obama-era regulations that target greenhouse gas emissions. The President has backed away from the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in a move that is both myopic and isolating.

(b) POLICY ON CLIMATE CHANGE. — It is the policy of this resolution that Congress should maintain the commitments made in the Paris Climate Agreement, adequately fund federal efforts to research and fight climate change, and help states and localities achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals.”

2. Amend the committee report to reflect the following policy assumptions:

The resolution supports strong funding for federal efforts to research, prevent, and reverse global warming. Rising sea levels and heavier, more damaging storms strongly influence both the fiscal outlook of the nation and the economy at large. Climate change threatens crop yields, infrastructure, water and energy supplies, and human health. The exposure on the federal level is breathtaking. Climate change poses risks to federal property and resources, increases potential outlays from flood and crop insurance, and creates looming disaster assistance needs. The Government Accountability Office has recommended that the federal government limit its fiscal exposure by better managing climate change risks, and the Department of Defense has warned that global climate change will aggravate existing problems and threaten domestic stability in a number of countries.