115TH CONGRESS  
2D Session  

H. CON. RES. 137

Expressing the sense of Congress that the United States is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy climate for future generations, and to creating solutions for restoring the climate.

 IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

Mr. RASKIN submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that the United States is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy climate for future generations, and to creating solutions for restoring the climate.

Whereas humanity has a continuing obligation to provide future generations a safe and healthy climate, similar to the climate of a hundred years ago;

Whereas the human species has never before lived with sustained atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO\textsubscript{2}) levels above 300 parts per million (ppm), which were exceeded in 1925;

Whereas current CO\textsubscript{2} levels are already about 410 ppm, and are expected to rise to 450 ppm or higher by 2050, based on current Paris Agreement goals;
Whereas the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has stated that temperatures corresponding to CO$_2$ levels of 450 ppm or above will lead to grave damage to ecosystems;

Whereas restoring CO$_2$ to levels of 300 ppm requires removing about 1 trillion tons of CO$_2$ from the atmosphere, and doing that in 20 to 50 years requires removing 50 gigatons (GT) of CO$_2$ (which is equal to 50 billion tons) per year from the atmosphere;

Whereas multiple methods capable of CO$_2$ removal from the atmosphere at 50 GT CO$_2$ per year have been demonstrated, and annual costs for implementing these methods are expected to be less than 1 to 3 percent of global gross domestic product (GDP);

Whereas if known methods prove to be incapable of removing 50 GT CO$_2$ per year, then we must develop other methods that will restore a safe and healthy climate for future generations;

Whereas scientists have researched methods for keeping warming below 2°C, but have not yet researched the best methods to remove all excess CO$_2$, stop sea-level rise, and restore a safe and healthy climate for future generations; and

Whereas declaring a goal of restoring a safe and healthy climate will encourage scientists to research the most effective ways to restore safe CO$_2$ levels, stop sea-level rise, and restore a safe and healthy climate for future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the United States is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy
climate for future generations, and to creating solutions for restoring the climate.