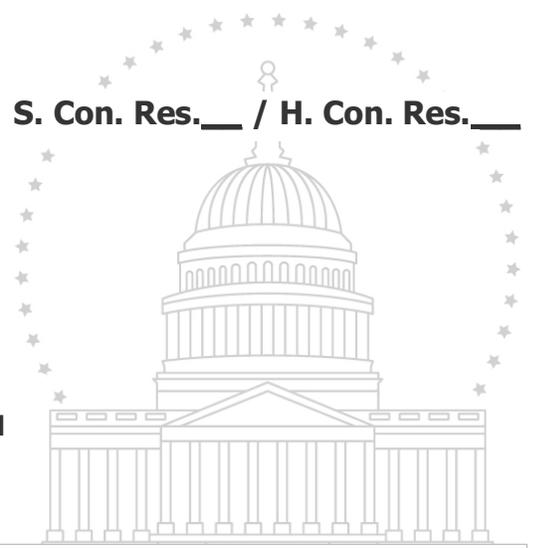


Children's Fundamental Climate Rights and Recovery Resolution

Introduced by Senator Jeff Merkley & Representatives Jan Schakowsky, Pramila Jayapal and Bobby L. Rush

Experts agree that human-caused climate change is adversely impacting our children. Renewed United States leadership is needed to immediately recognize that the climate crisis is affecting children's fundamental rights and to demand a plan.

S. Con. Res. ___ / H. Con. Res. ___



THE CLIMATE CRISIS DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTS OUR CHILDREN

There is an overwhelming scientific consensus that the present rate of global heating and ocean acidification is a result of the buildup of atmospheric greenhouse gas emissions, primarily carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, largely from the combustion of fossil fuels. Our current climate crisis disproportionately affects the health, economic opportunity, and fundamental rights of children.

Congress must act now to protect our children's rights, their health and our planet.

CHILDREN'S FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS ARE AT STAKE

Children are uniquely vulnerable to human-caused climate change. Today's children were born into a climate system that is hazardous to their health and wellbeing. A climate system capable of sustaining human life is fundamental to a free and ordered society and is preservative of other fundamental rights, including the rights to life, liberty, and property. Our Nation's children have called upon government leaders to take science-based and equitable action to address this crisis and ensure climate justice for their generation, future generations, and vulnerable communities, including communities of color, low-income communities, and indigenous peoples.

THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW

Scientists state that global atmospheric CO₂ concentrations must be reduced from over 415 parts per million (ppm) to below 350 ppm by 2100 to restore the planet's energy balance and stabilize our climate system. Experts have found technically and economically feasible pathways to place all sectors of our economy on a path to reach 350 ppm. Congress must demand a climate recovery plan that puts the United States on a trajectory consistent with reaching this target to uphold children's rights.

THIS RESOLUTION RECOGNIZES CHILDREN'S RIGHTS & DEMANDS A CLIMATE PLAN

The resolution calls on Congress to:

- support the youth climate movement and children across our Nation, including children from frontline and vulnerable communities seeking climate justice;
- protect children's fundamental rights to life, liberty, and property, and equal protection of the laws, which includes a climate system capable of sustaining human life; and
- demand a national, comprehensive, science-based, and just climate recovery plan prepared by the executive branch.



Children's Fundamental Rights and Climate Recovery Resolution

ENDORSED BY

Alaska Wilderness League Action

Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Public Health Association

American Sustainable Business Council

Amnesty International

Animal Law Society at American University Washington
College of Law

Aytzim: Ecological Judaism

Call to Action Colorado

Catholic Network US

Center for Biological Diversity

Center for Earth, Energy, and Democracy

Center for Environmental Law and Policy

Chesapeake Climate Action Network

Children's Environmental Health Network

Citizens' Climate Lobby

Climate Action Families

Climate Action Youth

Climate Institute

Climate Justice Alliance

Climate Xchange

Earth Guardians

Food & Water Watch

Forest Trends

Friends of the Earth

GreenLatinos

Greenpeace USA

Higher Ground Initiative

Hip Hop Caucus

Interfaith Moral Action on Climate

Interfaith Power & Light

Labor Network for Sustainability

Lawyers for Climate Action: A Call to the Bar

League of Conservation Voters

League of Women Voters of the United States

Madhvi4EcoEthics

Moms Clean Air Force

National Children's Campaign

National Congress of American Indians

Our Children's Trust

Physicians for Social Responsibility

Schools for Climate Action

Science and Environmental Health Network

Sierra Club

Sunrise Movement

350.org

WE ACT for Environmental Justice

Young Voices for the Planet

Zero Hour

