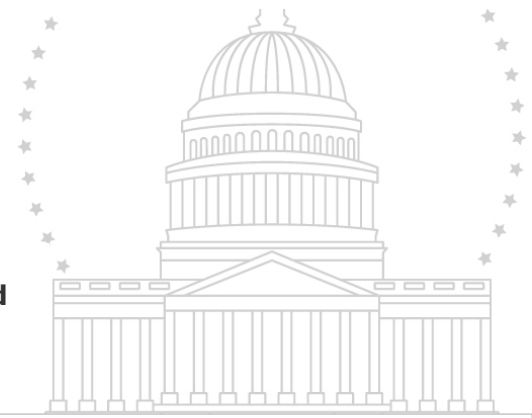


# Children's Fundamental Climate Rights and Recovery Resolution

S. Con. Res. \_\_\_ / H. Con. Res. \_\_\_



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.**

## 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 (CO<sub>2</sub>) 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 environmental and climate justice for their generation, future generations, and vulnerable communities that have borne the brunt of climate change.

## THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW

Scientists state that global atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> 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 within environmental justice communities, including communities of color, low-income communities, and indigenous communities, that have contributed the least to emissions and have long suffered from systemic environmental racism and social and economic injustices;
- 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 for Climate Education  
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  
Atlantic Coast Conference Climate Coalition  
Aytzim: Ecological Judaism  
Bread for the World  
Businesses for a Livable Climate  
Call to Action Colorado  
Call to Action of SW Florida  
Catholic Divestment Network  
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  
Clean Energy Action  
Climate Action Families  
Climate Action Youth  
Climate Institute  
Climate Justice Alliance  
Climate Justice at Boston College  
Climate Xchange  
Delaware Electric Vehicle Association  
Earth Action, Inc.  
Earth Guardians  
EarthDay.org  
EarthDay.org – Mexico  
Elders Climate Action  
Environmental Law & Policy Center  
Food & Water Watch  
Friends of the Earth  
Go Green Northbrook  
Green Faith  
GreenLatinos  
Greenpeace USA  
Hazon  
Higher Ground Initiative  
Hip Hop Caucus  
Interfaith Moral Action on Climate  
Interfaith Power & Light  
Labor Network for Sustainability  
Larimer Alliance  
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  
New Party Coalition  
198 Methods  
OneMillionofUs  
Our Children's Trust



Our Climate Education Fund

People's Justice Counsel

Physicians for Social Responsibility

RapidShift Network

Schools for Climate Action

Science and Environmental Health Network

Sierra Club

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team

Sunrise Movement

350Hawaii

350Kishwaukee (Illinois)

350.org

Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice

Wall of Women

WE ACT for Environmental Justice

Young Voices for the Planet

Zero Hour

