

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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May 21, 1986

The Honorable Ronald W. Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

One of the most serious long-term environmental problems facing the United States and the world is the greenhouse effect. This global warming, which is the result of the accumulation of carbon dioxide and trace gases in the atmosphere, could have disastrous consequences ranging from alteration of weather patterns to a rise in sea levels.

Numerous scientific studies, including those by the National Academy of Sciences, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, have concluded that the greenhouse phenomenon is real and the only question is when the impact will occur and what will be the extent of disruption.

There is still time to study the greenhouse effect and determine what actions should be taken to ameliorate the impact and reduce the buildup of the various trace gases in the atmosphere. In order to effectively address this phenomenon, all nations, along with the United States, need to coordinate their efforts.

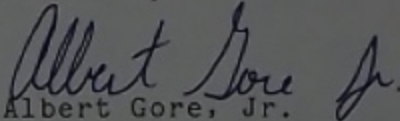
Mr. President, I am requesting that you establish a long-term study, beginning with a one-year cooperative international research program on the greenhouse effect. The program would coordinate the research efforts of the participating nations and identify the potential policy options to address the problem.

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I urge you to take the necessary steps to carry out this important cooperative study effort. Our children and grandchildren will benefit from our action - or suffer from our procrastination.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Albert Gore, Jr.".

Albert Gore, Jr.
United States Senator