

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 319

Recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 24, 2023

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ (for herself, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. CASAR, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. CHU, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MFUME, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. PORTER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. MENG, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. BALINT, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. LIEU, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. NADLER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. POCAN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. OMAR, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. BUSH, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. PANNETTA, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. FROST, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. WATERS, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. LYNCH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, Education and the Workforce, Transportation and Infrastructure, Agriculture, Natural Resources, Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, the Judiciary, Ways and Means, and Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create
a Green New Deal.

Whereas the October 2018 report entitled “Special Report on
Global Warming of 1.5 °C” by the Intergovernmental
Panel on Climate Change and the November 2018
Fourth National Climate Assessment report found that—

(1) human activity is the dominant cause of ob-
served climate change over the past century;

(2) a changing climate is causing sea levels to rise
and an increase in wildfires, severe storms, droughts, and
other extreme weather events that threaten human life,
healthy communities, and critical infrastructure;

(3) global warming at or greater than 2 degrees Cel-
sius beyond preindustrialized levels will cause—

(A) mass migration from the regions most af-
fected by climate change;

(B) more than \$500,000,000,000 in lost annual
economic output in the United States by the year
2100;

(C) wildfires that, by 2050, will annually burn
at least twice as much forest area in the western
United States than was typically burned by wildfires
in the years preceding 2019;

(D) a loss of more than 99 percent of all coral
reefs on Earth;

(E) more than 350,000,000 more people to be
exposed globally to deadly heat stress by 2050; and

(F) a risk of damage to \$1,000,000,000,000 of
public infrastructure and coastal real estate in the
United States; and

(4) global temperatures must be kept less than 1.5 degrees Celsius above preindustrialized levels to avoid the most severe impacts of a changing climate, which will require—

(A) global reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from human sources of 40 to 60 percent from 2010 levels by 2030; and

(B) net-zero global emissions by 2050;

Whereas, because the United States has historically been responsible for a disproportionate amount of greenhouse gas emissions, having emitted 20 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions through 2014, and has a high technological capacity, the United States must take a leading role in reducing emissions through economic transformation;

Whereas the United States is currently experiencing several related crises, with—

(1) life expectancy declining while basic needs, such as clean air, clean water, healthy food, and adequate health care, housing, transportation, and education, are inaccessible to a significant portion of the United States population;

(2) a 4-decade trend of wage stagnation, deindustrialization, and antilabor policies that has led to—

(A) hourly wages overall stagnating since the 1970s despite increased worker productivity;

(B) the third-worst level of socioeconomic mobility in the developed world before the Great Recession;

(C) the erosion of the earning and bargaining power of workers in the United States; and

(D) inadequate resources for public sector workers to confront the challenges of climate change at the Federal, State, and local level; and

(3) the greatest income inequality since the 1920s, with—

(A) the top 1 percent of earners accruing 91 percent of gains in the first few years of economic recovery after the Great Recession;

(B) a large racial wealth divide amounting to a difference of 20 times more wealth between the average White family and the average Black family; and

(C) a gender earnings gap that results in women earning approximately 80 percent as much as men, at the median;

Whereas climate change, pollution, and environmental destruction have exacerbated systemic racial, regional, social, environmental, and economic injustices (referred to in this preamble as “systemic injustices”) by disproportionately affecting indigenous peoples, communities of color, migrant communities, deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural communities, the poor, low-income workers, women, the elderly, the unhoused, people with disabilities, and youth (referred to in this preamble as “frontline and vulnerable communities”);

Whereas climate change constitutes a direct threat to the national security of the United States—

(1) by impacting the economic, environmental, and social stability of countries and communities around the world; and

(2) by acting as a threat multiplier;

Whereas the Federal Government-led mobilizations during World War II and the New Deal created the greatest

middle class that the United States has ever seen, but many members of frontline and vulnerable communities were excluded from many of the economic and societal benefits of those mobilizations; and

Whereas the House of Representatives recognizes that a new national, social, industrial, and economic mobilization on a scale not seen since World War II and the New Deal era is a historic opportunity—

(1) to create millions of good, high-wage jobs in the United States;

(2) to provide unprecedented levels of prosperity and economic security for all people of the United States; and

(3) to counteract systemic injustices: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) it is the duty of the Federal Government to
4 create a Green New Deal—

5 (A) to achieve the greenhouse gas and
6 toxic emissions reductions needed to stay under
7 1.5 degrees Celsius of warming, through a fair
8 and just transition for all communities and
9 workers;

10 (B) to create millions of good, high-wage
11 union jobs and encourage collective bargaining
12 agreements to ensure prosperity and economic
13 security for all people of the United States;

1 (C) to invest in the infrastructure and in-
2 dustry of the United States to sustainably meet
3 the challenges of the 21st century;

4 (D) to secure for all people of the United
5 States for generations to come—

6 (i) clean air and water;

7 (ii) climate and community resiliency;

8 (iii) healthy food;

9 (iv) access to nature; and

10 (v) a sustainable environment; and

11 (E) to promote justice and equity by stop-
12 ping current, preventing future, and repairing
13 historic oppression of indigenous peoples, com-
14 munities of color, migrant communities,
15 deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural
16 communities, the poor, low-income workers,
17 women, the elderly, the unhoused, people with
18 disabilities, and youth (referred to in this reso-
19 lution as “frontline and vulnerable commu-
20 nities”);

21 (2) the goals described in subparagraphs (A)
22 through (E) of paragraph (1) (referred to in this
23 resolution as the “Green New Deal goals”) should
24 be accomplished through a 10-year national mobili-

1 zation (referred to in this resolution as the “Green
2 New Deal mobilization”) that will require—

3 (A) building resiliency against climate
4 change-related disasters, such as extreme
5 weather, including by leveraging funding and
6 providing investments for community-defined
7 projects and strategies;

8 (B) repairing and upgrading the infra-
9 structure in the United States, including—

10 (i) by eliminating pollution and green-
11 house gas emissions as much as techno-
12 logically feasible;

13 (ii) by guaranteeing universal access
14 to clean water;

15 (iii) by reducing the risks posed by cli-
16 mate impacts; and

17 (iv) by ensuring that any infrastruc-
18 ture bill considered by Congress addresses
19 climate change;

20 (C) meeting 100 percent of the power de-
21 mand in the United States through clean, re-
22 newable, and zero-emission energy sources, in-
23 cluding—

24 (i) by dramatically expanding and up-
25 grading renewable power sources; and

1 (ii) by deploying new capacity;

2 (D) building or upgrading to energy-effi-
3 cient, distributed, and “smart” power grids and
4 ensuring affordable access to electricity;

5 (E) upgrading all existing buildings in the
6 United States and building new buildings to
7 achieve maximum energy efficiency, water effi-
8 ciency, safety, affordability, comfort, and dura-
9 bility, including through electrification;

10 (F) spurring massive growth in clean man-
11 ufacturing in the United States and removing
12 pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from
13 manufacturing and industry as much as is tech-
14 nologically feasible, including by expanding re-
15 newable energy manufacturing and investing in
16 existing manufacturing and industry;

17 (G) working collaboratively with farmers
18 and ranchers in the United States to remove
19 pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from
20 the agricultural sector as much as is techno-
21 logically feasible, including—

22 (i) by supporting family farming;

23 (ii) by investing in sustainable farm-
24 ing and land use practices that increase
25 soil health; and

1 (iii) by building a more sustainable
2 food system that ensures universal access
3 to healthy food;

4 (H) overhauling transportation systems in
5 the United States to remove pollution and
6 greenhouse gas emissions from the transpor-
7 tation sector as much as is technologically fea-
8 sible, including through investment in—

9 (i) zero-emission vehicle and non-mo-
10 torized alternative modes of transportation
11 infrastructure and manufacturing;

12 (ii) clean, affordable, and accessible
13 public transit; and

14 (iii) high-speed rail;

15 (I) mitigating and managing the long-term
16 adverse health, economic, and other effects of
17 pollution and climate change, including by pro-
18 viding funding for community-defined projects
19 and strategies;

20 (J) removing greenhouse gases from the
21 atmosphere and reducing pollution by restoring
22 natural ecosystems through proven low-tech so-
23 lutions that increase soil carbon storage, such
24 as land preservation and afforestation;

1 (K) restoring and protecting threatened,
2 endangered, and fragile ecosystems through lo-
3 cally appropriate and science-based projects
4 that enhance biodiversity and support climate
5 resiliency;

6 (L) cleaning up existing hazardous waste
7 sites and abandoned sites and ensuring eco-
8 nomic development and sustainability on those
9 sites;

10 (M) identifying other emission and pollu-
11 tion sources and creating solutions to remove
12 them; and

13 (N) promoting the international exchange
14 of technology, expertise, products, funding, and
15 services, with the aim of making the United
16 States the international leader on climate action
17 and to help other countries achieve a Green
18 New Deal;

19 (3) a Green New Deal must be developed
20 through transparent and inclusive consultation, col-
21 laboration, and partnership with frontline and vul-
22 nerable communities, labor organizations, worker co-
23 operatives, civil society groups, academia, and busi-
24 nesses; and

1 (4) to achieve the Green New Deal goals and
2 mobilization, a Green New Deal will require—

3 (A) providing and leveraging, in a way that
4 ensures that the public receives appropriate
5 ownership stakes and returns on investment,
6 adequate capital (including through community
7 grants, public banks, and other public financ-
8 ing), technical expertise, supporting policies,
9 and other forms of assistance to communities,
10 organizations, Federal, State, and local govern-
11 ment agencies, and businesses working on the
12 Green New Deal mobilization;

13 (B) ensuring that the Federal Government
14 takes into account the complete environmental
15 and social costs and impacts of emissions
16 through—

17 (i) existing laws;

18 (ii) new policies and programs; and

19 (iii) ensuring that frontline and vul-
20 nerable communities shall not be adversely
21 affected;

22 (C) providing resources, training, and
23 high-quality education, including higher edu-
24 cation, to all people of the United States, with
25 a focus on frontline and vulnerable commu-

1 nities, so that all people of the United States
2 may be full and equal participants in the Green
3 New Deal mobilization;

4 (D) making public investments in the re-
5 search and development of new clean and re-
6 newable energy technologies and industries;

7 (E) directing investments to spur economic
8 development, deepen and diversify industry and
9 business in local and regional economies, and
10 build wealth and community ownership, while
11 prioritizing high-quality job creation and eco-
12 nomic, social, and environmental benefits in
13 frontline and vulnerable communities, and
14 deindustrialized communities, that may other-
15 wise struggle with the transition away from
16 greenhouse gas intensive industries;

17 (F) ensuring the use of democratic and
18 participatory processes that are inclusive of and
19 led by frontline and vulnerable communities and
20 workers to plan, implement, and administer the
21 Green New Deal mobilization at the local level;

22 (G) ensuring that the Green New Deal mo-
23 bilization creates high-quality union jobs that
24 pay prevailing wages, hires local workers, offers
25 training and advancement opportunities, and

1 guarantees direct replacement of lost wages,
2 health care, retirement, and other benefits for
3 workers affected by the transition;

4 (H) guaranteeing a job with a family-sus-
5 taining wage, adequate family and medical
6 leave, paid vacations, and retirement security to
7 all people of the United States;

8 (I) strengthening and protecting the right
9 of all workers to organize, unionize, and collec-
10 tively bargain free of coercion, intimidation, and
11 harassment;

12 (J) strengthening and enforcing labor,
13 workplace health and safety, antidiscrimination,
14 and wage and hour standards across all employ-
15 ers, industries, and sectors;

16 (K) enacting and enforcing trade rules,
17 procurement standards, and border adjustments
18 with strong labor and environmental protec-
19 tions—

20 (i) to stop the transfer of jobs and
21 pollution overseas; and

22 (ii) to grow domestic manufacturing
23 in the United States;

1 (L) ensuring that public lands, waters, and
2 oceans are protected and that eminent domain
3 is not abused;

4 (M) obtaining the free, prior, and informed
5 consent of indigenous peoples for all decisions
6 that affect indigenous peoples and their tradi-
7 tional territories, honoring all treaties and
8 agreements with indigenous peoples, and pro-
9 tecting and enforcing the sovereignty and land
10 rights of indigenous peoples;

11 (N) ensuring a commercial environment
12 where every businessperson is free from unfair
13 competition and domination by domestic or
14 international monopolies; and

15 (O) providing all people of the United
16 States with—

17 (i) high-quality health care;

18 (ii) affordable, safe, and adequate
19 housing;

20 (iii) economic security; and

21 (iv) clean water, clean air, healthy and
22 affordable food, and access to nature.

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