

114TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6240

To accelerate reductions in climate pollution in order to leave a better planet for future generations, and to create a bipartisan commission to develop economically viable policies to achieve science-based emissions reduction targets.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2016

Mr. DELANEY (for himself, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. DOLD, and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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

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## A BILL

To accelerate reductions in climate pollution in order to leave a better planet for future generations, and to create a bipartisan commission to develop economically viable policies to achieve science-based emissions reduction targets.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Climate Solutions  
5 Commission Act of 2016”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds that—

3 (1) there has been a marked increase in ex-  
4 treme weather events and the negative impacts of a  
5 changing climate are expected to worsen in every re-  
6 gion of the United States;

7 (2) if left unaddressed, the consequences of a  
8 changing climate have the potential to adversely im-  
9 pact the health of all Americans, harm the economy,  
10 and impose substantial costs on State and Federal  
11 budgets;

12 (3) efforts to reduce climate risk should protect  
13 our Nation’s economy, security, infrastructure, agri-  
14 culture, water supply, and public safety; and

15 (4) there is bipartisan support for pursuing ef-  
16 forts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through  
17 economically viable, broadly supported private and  
18 public policies and solutions.

19 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.**

20 Effective immediately upon the enactment of this  
21 Act, there shall be established a bipartisan commission to  
22 be known as the “National Climate Solutions Commis-  
23 sion” (referred to in this Act as the “Commission”).

24 **SEC. 4. PURPOSES OF COMMISSION.**

25 The Commission shall—

1           (1) undertake a comprehensive review of eco-  
2           nomically viable public and private actions or policies  
3           to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the United  
4           States;

5           (2) make recommendations for reducing green-  
6           house gas emissions to the President, Congress, and  
7           the States; and

8           (3) use as its goals for emissions reductions  
9           those estimated rates of reduction that reflect the  
10          latest scientific findings of what is needed to avoid  
11          serious human health and environmental con-  
12          sequences of a changing climate.

13 **SEC. 5. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMISSION.**

14          (a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall be com-  
15          posed of 10 members, appointed not later than 3 months  
16          after the date of enactment of this Act, as follows:

17               (1) One member shall be appointed by the  
18               President, who shall serve as cochairman of the  
19               Commission.

20               (2) One member shall be appointed by the lead-  
21               er of the Senate, in consultation with the leader of  
22               the House of Representatives, that are members of  
23               the opposite party of the President, who shall serve  
24               as cochairman of the Commission.

1           (3) Two members shall be appointed by the Ma-  
2           jority Leader of the Senate.

3           (4) Two members shall be appointed by the Mi-  
4           nority Leader of the Senate.

5           (5) Two members shall be appointed by the  
6           Speaker of the House of Representatives.

7           (6) Two members shall be appointed by the Mi-  
8           nority Leader of the House of Representatives.

9           (b) INITIAL MEETING.—The Commission shall meet  
10          not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of  
11          this Act.

12          (c) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Commission shall pro-  
13          vide the recommendations described in section 4(2), based  
14          on the goals described in section 4(3), not later than 18  
15          months after the date of enactment of this Act.

16          (d) ELIGIBLE MEMBERS.—To be considered for  
17          membership on the Commission, an individual must be a  
18          representative from—

19                (1) academic, scientific, or other nongovern-  
20                mental organizations with expertise in the economy,  
21                energy, climate, or public health; or

22                (2) industry organizations, including small busi-  
23                nesses, from relevant sectors such as—

24                        (A) energy supply and transmission, in-  
25                        cluding fossil fuels and renewable energy;

1 (B) energy exploration and production, in-  
2 cluding fossil fuels and renewable energy;

3 (C) solid waste and wastewater;

4 (D) transportation;

5 (E) chemical manufacturing and user in-  
6 dustries;

7 (F) agriculture;

8 (G) construction and development; and

9 (H) forestry.

10 (e) INELIGIBLE MEMBERS.—No employee, owner, di-  
11 rector, or other affiliated person of an entity which has  
12 contributed pursuant to section 6(b) may be appointed to  
13 the Commission.

14 **SEC. 6. FUNDING FOR THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMIS-**  
15 **SION.**

16 (a) LIMITATION.—No additional amounts may be au-  
17 thorized to be appropriated to establish or otherwise pay  
18 for the activities or salaries of the Commission.

19 (b) PRIVATE SECTOR DONATIONS.—The Secretary of  
20 the Treasury may collect and disseminate to the Commis-  
21 sion private sector funds donated for the purposes of this  
22 Act.

23 (c) TRANSPARENCY.—The amounts and sources of all  
24 funds donated pursuant to subsection (b) and all spending

1 by the Commission shall be made publicly available on an  
2 Internet website.

3 **SEC. 7. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE STUDY**  
4 **AND REPORT.**

5 (a) **STUDY REQUIRED.**—The Comptroller General  
6 shall conduct a study of State, Federal, and private sector  
7 energy efficiency and renewable energy guaranteed loan  
8 programs, Green Banks, and other financial tools and in-  
9 stitutions that are focused on—

10 (1) reducing the level of greenhouse gas emis-  
11 sions, including through sequestration and recycling;  
12 or

13 (2) encouraging the research, development,  
14 prototyping, and deployment of energy efficiency and  
15 renewable energy technologies.

16 (b) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—Not later than 180 days  
17 after the date on which the Comptroller General completes  
18 the study required by subsection (a), the Comptroller Gen-  
19 eral shall submit to Congress a report containing—

20 (1) the results of the study; and

21 (2) an assessment of those financial tools, poli-  
22 cies, and institutions most successful at contributing  
23 to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions while  
24 protecting economic growth and employment.

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