



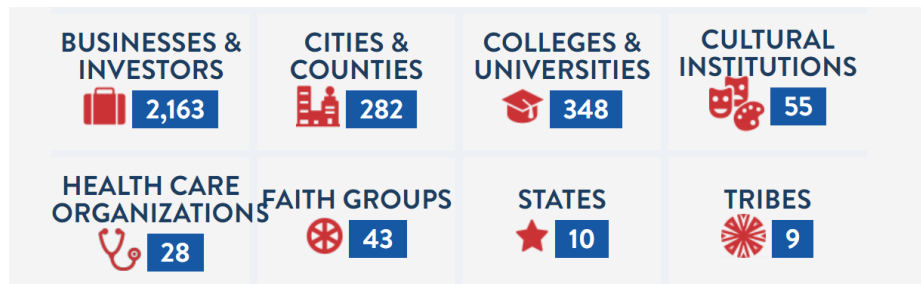
OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE KATHY CASTOR

March 27, 2019

FACT SHEET: H.R. 9, CLIMATE ACTION NOW ACT

- Democrats are proud to deliver on our promise to take bold action to confront the climate crisis, which is the existential threat of our time. This week, we are introducing H.R. 9: Climate Action Now Act – a bill that to demands climate action by ensuring America honors its Paris Agreement commitments and laying the groundwork for further action.
- We're already seeing the devastating effects of climate change on our coasts, our forests, our farmland, and in our communities. Combating climate change is critical for protecting the people and places we love. This is a generational challenge but also a once-in-generation opportunity: to create a clean energy economy that can provide good-paying jobs to millions of Americans, cleaner air for everyone, and a safer climate for our children and grandchildren.
- On December 12, 2015, the nations of the world came together to declare with a single voice our commitment to tackling the growing climate crisis with boldness, vision and unity. [Nearly 200 countries, including the United States, China, India and the European Union, have signed the landmark Paris Agreement](#) to combat climate change and to accelerate and amplify the actions and investments needed for a sustainable low carbon future for the world.
- The central aim of the Paris Agreement was for the nations of the world to work together – through nationally determined contributions (NDC) – to keep the global temperature rise to well below 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 F) and to do everything in our power to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 F).
- In 2015, the U.S. submitted its first NDC announcing [a plan to reduce carbon pollution by 26% to 28% below 2005 levels by 2025](#), and to make best efforts to reduce carbon pollution by 28%, underscoring our role as the global leader on the issue of climate change.
- And yet, in the face of rising temperatures, fires, storms and floods – that are devastating communities across our country and around the world – President Trump is abandoning our nation's solemn duty to take action. On June 1, 2017, he announced his intention to withdraw the U.S. from the Paris Agreement – making the U.S. the only country to reject the global pact.
- Despite President Trump's objections and his blanket declaration, the earliest date the U.S. could withdraw from the Paris Agreement is early November 2020. Furthermore, the U.S. is still obligated to uphold our commitments under the agreement.
- For Democrats, combatting the climate crisis is a moral imperative that compels us to act to ensure we live in and leave behind a healthier, safer and more sustainable world for our children and grandchildren. The first step is keeping our word to work with the rest of the world to cut carbon pollution and rise to the challenges of climate change.
- To that end, H.R. 9, the Climate Action Now Act, would prohibit any federal funds from being used to take any action to advance the withdrawal of the U.S. from the Paris Agreement.

- The Climate Action Now Act would also call on the President to develop and make public a plan for how the United States will meet the pollution reduction goals submitted to the world in 2015. The President has an obligation to lead on this issue and to help our nation achieve our commitment to the planet.
- There is far-reaching support for the Paris Agreement from state, local, and tribal elected officials, business leaders, consumer, health and labor organizations, and more. More than 2,000 businesses and investors, 280 cities and counties and 10 states have independently pledged to meet our commitment under the Paris climate agreement.



[We Are Still In, 2019]

- In a nationally representative survey, more than 7 in 10 Americans (71 percent) said they support the Paris climate agreement, including 57 percent of Republicans. [Washington Post, 2016]
- [AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka](#): “Pulling out of the Paris climate agreement is a decision to abandon a cleaner future powered by good jobs. A deteriorating environment is not the only thing at stake here. When our leaders isolate America from the rest of the world, it hurts our ability to raise incomes for working families and achieve fairness in the global economy. The U.S. labor movement will continue to urge the United States to stay in the agreement so we can achieve the best outcomes for America’s workers.”
- Pulling out of the Paris climate agreement was controversial in Trump’s own party. Former Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney, now a Utah Senator, [urged the president to stay in the agreement](#).



- When he announced his intent to withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement, President Trump invoked the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. But Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto says cities like his are leading the way in combating climate change. “I would say the biggest indicator of all of that is one year ago there were 64 cities, Pittsburgh included, that were part of the ‘Climate Mayors,’ the cities that had committed to the Paris Agreement,” Mr. Peduto said. “And today in the United States there’s over 400, many of those cities led by Republican mayors.” [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2018]
- Even ExxonMobil has called the Paris agreement “[an important step forward by world governments in addressing the serious risks of climate change.](#)”

