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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect the climate.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. TED LIEU of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect the climate.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Climate Solutions Act of 2019”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
7 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings; sense of Congress.

TITLE I—RENEWABLE ENERGY

Sec. 101. National renewable energy standard.

TITLE II—ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Sec. 201. National energy efficiency standard.

TITLE III—SCIENCE-BASED REDUCTIONS

Sec. 301. Emission reduction targets.

Sec. 302. National academies review.

Sec. 303. Regulations.

Sec. 304. Savings clause.

Sec. 305. Definitions.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds as follows:

3 (1) The United States has the objective of sta-
4 bilizing greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmos-
5 phere at a level that would prevent “dangerous an-
6 thropogenic interference” with the climate system as
7 demonstrated by becoming a party to the 1992
8 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate
9 Change, pledging to China to reduce greenhouse gas
10 emissions to 28 percent of their 2005 levels by 2025,
11 and regulating greenhouse gas emissions from sta-
12 tionary sources, mobile sources, and electrical power
13 suppliers.

14 (2) To achieve this objective, the increase in
15 global mean surface temperature should not exceed
16 2°C (3.6°F) above preindustrial temperature by
17 2100 consistent with the Paris Agreement that en-
18 tered into force in 2016.

19 (3) The risks associated with a temperature in-
20 crease above 2°C (3.6°F) are grave, including the

1 disintegration of the Greenland ice sheet, which, if
2 it were to melt completely, would raise global aver-
3 age sea level by approximately 23 feet, devastating
4 many of the world's coastal areas and population
5 centers.

6 (4) A 2018 report by the Intergovernmental
7 Panel on Climate Change demonstrated that limiting
8 the temperature increase to 1.5°C will result in still
9 harmful, but significantly less severe outcomes than
10 a 2°C increase.

11 (5) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate
12 Change projects that temperatures will rise 1.5°C
13 between 2030 and 2052. In order to limit the tem-
14 perature increase to 1.5°C, global net anthropogenic
15 carbon dioxide emissions must reach net zero by
16 2050.

17 (6) The 2018 National Climate Assessment, au-
18 thored by more than 300 experts and released by the
19 United States Global Change Research Program,
20 makes clear that the present unprecedented rises in
21 global temperature are primarily due to human ac-
22 tivities. The changing climate will devastate all sec-
23 tors of society and disproportionately harm the most
24 vulnerable communities.

1 (7) Serious global warming impacts have al-
2 ready been observed in the United States and world-
3 wide, including—

4 (A) increases in heat waves and other ex-
5 treme weather events;

6 (B) rise in sea level, retreat of glaciers and
7 polar ice;

8 (C) decline in mountain snowpack, in-
9 creased drought (including droughts in the
10 West and South United States) resulting in
11 damage to our economy and property;

12 (D) extreme weather conditions resulting
13 in wildfires, stronger hurricanes, and polar vor-
14 tex occurrences resulting in further damage to
15 property and our economy;

16 (E) damage to our environment such as
17 ocean acidification, extensive coral bleaching,
18 migrations, and shifts in the yearly cycles of
19 plants and animals; and

20 (F) effects on human population, including
21 population displacement and adverse health ef-
22 fects such as the spread of infectious diseases
23 and climate-related conditions such as asthma.

24 (8) Scientists project that under a midrange es-
25 timate of global warming, by 2050, roughly 25 per-

1 cent of animal and plant species will be committed
2 to extinction.

3 (9) After remaining steady from 2014 to 2016,
4 global carbon dioxide emissions increased 1.6 per-
5 cent in 2017.

6 (10) Decisive action is needed to minimize the
7 many dangers posed by global warming.

8 (11) The timing of such action is critical, given
9 that greenhouse gases can persist in the atmosphere
10 for more than a century.

11 (12) With less than 5 percent of the world pop-
12 ulation, the United States emits approximately 15
13 percent of the world's total greenhouse gas emissions
14 and must be a leader in addressing global warming.

15 (13) The State of California, the 5th largest
16 economy in the world, has shown that renewable en-
17 ergy standards and greenhouse gas emissions regula-
18 tion can reduce greenhouse gas emissions while fos-
19 tering significant economic growth.

20 (14) Existing energy efficiency and clean, re-
21 newable energy technologies can reduce global warm-
22 ing pollution, while saving consumers money, reduc-
23 ing our dependence on oil, enhancing national secu-
24 rity, cleaning the air, and protecting pristine places
25 from drilling and mining.

1 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of the
2 Congress that the United States should participate in ne-
3 gotiations under the 1992 United Nations Framework
4 Convention on Climate Change and honor its commit-
5 ments therefrom with the objective of securing and con-
6 tinuing United States participation in agreements, includ-
7 ing the Paris Agreement that the United States accepted
8 on September 3, 2016, and took effect on November 4,
9 2016, that—

10 (1) establish mitigation commitments by all
11 countries that are major emitters of greenhouse
12 gases, consistent with the principle of common but
13 differentiated responsibilities;

14 (2) achieve reductions in global greenhouse gas
15 emissions at a pace and level sufficient to avoid dan-
16 gerous interference with the Earth’s climate; and

17 (3) advance and protect the economic and na-
18 tional security interests of the United States.

19 **TITLE I—RENEWABLE ENERGY**

20 **SEC. 101. NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD.**

21 Title VI of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act
22 of 1978 is amended by adding at the end the following:

23 **“SEC. 610. NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD.**

24 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall promulgate
25 regulations requiring that—

1 “(1) beginning in calendar year 2020, the per-
2 centage of electric energy generated from renewable
3 sources that is sold at the retail level in the United
4 States shall increase each year; and

5 “(2) in calendar year 2035 and each subse-
6 quent calendar year, such percentage shall not be
7 less than 100 percent of the total electric energy
8 sold at the retail level in the United States.

9 “(b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall carry out
10 this section in consultation with the Administrator of the
11 Environmental Protection Agency.

12 “(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
13 tion shall be construed to preempt or limit State actions
14 to enhance renewable energy generation or energy effi-
15 ciency.”.

16 **TITLE II—ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

17 **SEC. 201. NATIONAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARD.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title VI of the Public Utility Reg-
19 ulatory Policies Act of 1978, as amended by section 101
20 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the
21 following:

22 **“SEC. 611. NATIONAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARD.**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall promulgate
24 regulations in accordance with this section setting end-

1 user savings targets for retail electric energy and natural
2 gas suppliers.

3 “(b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall carry out
4 this section in consultation with the Administrator of the
5 Environmental Protection Agency.

6 “(c) REQUIREMENTS.—With respect to targets under
7 subsection (a):

8 “(1) The targets shall require each supplier to
9 secure annual savings of a set percentage of the sup-
10 plier’s most recent year’s sales to retail customers.

11 “(2) The savings shall be achieved through end-
12 use efficiency improvements at customer facilities.

13 “(3) The targets—

14 “(A) for retail electric energy suppliers
15 shall increase gradually from 0.25 percent of
16 sales in 2020 to 1.5 percent of sales in 2025
17 and each year thereafter through 2030; and

18 “(B) for retail natural gas suppliers shall
19 increase gradually from 0.25 percent of sales in
20 2020 to 0.5 percent of sales in 2025 and each
21 year thereafter through 2030.

22 “(4) The targets are cumulative. Each year’s
23 savings shall be achieved in addition to the previous
24 years’ savings.

1 “(d) REQUIRED PERCENTAGES AFTER 2030.—The
2 Secretary may, upon petition or upon the Secretary’s own
3 initiative, increase the required percentage of end-user
4 savings for years after 2030.

5 “(e) MARKET-BASED TRADING SYSTEM.—The Sec-
6 retary shall allow suppliers to achieve the targets under
7 subsection (a) through a market-based trading system.

8 “(f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
9 tion shall be construed to preempt or limit State actions
10 to enhance renewable energy generation or energy effi-
11 ciency.”.

12 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
13 tents for the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of
14 1978 is amended by inserting after the item relating to
15 section 608 the following:

“Sec. 609. Rural and remote communities electrification grants.

“Sec. 610. National renewable energy standard.

“Sec. 611. National energy efficiency standard.”.

16 **TITLE III—SCIENCE-BASED**
17 **REDUCTIONS**

18 **SEC. 301. EMISSION REDUCTION TARGETS.**

19 Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment
20 of this Act, the Administrator of the Environmental Pro-
21 tection Agency (in this title referred to as the “Adminis-
22 trator”) shall promulgate annual emission reduction tar-
23 gets for each of calendar years 2030 through 2050, so as

1 to ensure that the quantity of United States greenhouse
2 gas emissions—

3 (1) in 2035, is at least 40 percent below the
4 quantity of such emissions in 1990; and

5 (2) in 2050, is at least 80 percent below the
6 quantity of such emissions in 1990.

7 **SEC. 302. NATIONAL ACADEMIES REVIEW.**

8 Not later than 5 years after the date of the enact-
9 ment of this Act, and every 5 years thereafter, the Admin-
10 istrator shall enter into an arrangement with the National
11 Academies (or, if the National Academies decline to enter
12 into such arrangement, another appropriate entity) under
13 which the National Academies, acting through the Na-
14 tional Academy of Sciences and the National Research
15 Council, will submit a report to the Administrator and the
16 Congress on the prospects for avoiding dangerous anthro-
17 pogenic interference with the climate system and the
18 progress made to date. Each such report shall—

19 (1) evaluate whether the emission reduction tar-
20 gets promulgated pursuant to section 301 and the
21 policies to reduce United States greenhouse gas
22 emissions under this Act, the amendments made by
23 this Act, and other provisions of law, including the
24 Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.), are likely

1 to be sufficient to avoid dangerous climate change,
2 taking into account the actions of other nations; and

3 (2) if the National Academies concludes that
4 such targets and policies are not likely to be suffi-
5 cient to avoid dangerous climate change—

6 (A) identify the needed amount of further
7 reductions in atmospheric greenhouse gas con-
8 centrations; and

9 (B) recommend additional United States
10 and international actions to further reduce at-
11 mospheric greenhouse gas concentrations.

12 **SEC. 303. REGULATIONS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall—

14 (1) not later than 7 years after the date of en-
15 actment of this Act, promulgate final regulations to
16 implement the emission reduction targets under sec-
17 tion 301; and

18 (2) not less than every 5 years thereafter—

19 (A) review such regulations, taking into ac-
20 count the reports under section 302; and

21 (B) revise such regulations as necessary to
22 implement such emission reduction targets.

23 (b) RULEMAKING ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF NA-
24 TIONAL ACADEMIES.—If any report under section 302 in-
25 cludes a recommendation under section 302(2)(B) for reg-

1 ulatory action by a Federal department or agency, and
2 such regulatory action is within the authority of such de-
3 partment or agency (under law other than this sub-
4 section), the head of such department or agency shall, not
5 later than 2 years after the submission of such report, fi-
6 nalize a rulemaking—

7 (1) to carry out such regulatory action; or

8 (2) to explain the reasons for declining to act.

9 (c) **ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS.**—The regulations
10 promulgated under subsection (a) may include additional
11 regulations to reduce emissions of United States green-
12 house gases from any source or sector. Any such regula-
13 tions that address sources whose greenhouse gas emissions
14 are regulated pursuant to section 111(d) of the Clean Air
15 Act (42 U.S.C. 7411(d)) shall account for the compliance
16 schedule promulgated pursuant to such section 111(d).
17 Regulations under this section may include market-based
18 measures, emissions performance standards, efficiency
19 performance standards, best management practices, tech-
20 nology-based requirements, and other forms of require-
21 ments.

22 (d) **RELATION TO OTHER AUTHORITY.**—The author-
23 ity vested by this title is in addition to the authority to
24 regulate greenhouse gas emissions pursuant to other pro-
25 visions of law.

1 **SEC. 304. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

2 Nothing in this title shall be interpreted to preempt
3 or limit State actions to address climate change.

4 **SEC. 305. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this title:

6 (1) GREENHOUSE GAS.—The term “greenhouse
7 gas” means—

8 (A) carbon dioxide;

9 (B) methane;

10 (C) nitrous oxide;

11 (D) hydrofluorocarbons;

12 (E) perfluorocarbons;

13 (F) sulfur hexafluoride; or

14 (G) any other anthropogenically emitted
15 gas that is determined by the Administrator,
16 after notice and comment, to contribute to glob-
17 al warming to a non-negligible degree.

18 (2) UNITED STATES GREENHOUSE GAS EMIS-
19 SIONS.—The term “United States greenhouse gas
20 emissions” means the total quantity of greenhouse
21 gas emissions calculated by the Administrator on an
22 annual basis and reported to the United Nations
23 Framework Convention on Climate Change Secre-
24 tariat.