

CONGRESSMAN

TED LIEU

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Throughout his career, Congressman Lieu has been a staunch advocate for protecting the environment and fighting climate change. As a California state legislator, he was a co-author of the landmark Global Warming Solutions Act to set limits on greenhouse gas emissions in California. He realized, however, that in order to better combat climate change the rest of the United States needed to follow California's example, leading him to run for Congress. In the House of Representatives, Congressman Lieu is a member of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition as well as the Safe Climate Caucus.

ON FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE

Congressman Lieu is the sponsor of the [Climate Solutions Act](#), one of the most aggressive bills to tackle climate change at the national level. This legislation establishes a National Renewable Energy Standard to drive us towards 100 percent renewable energy by 2035. Next, it creates a stringent National Energy Efficiency Standard to reduce energy usage and save consumers money. Finally, it sets ambitious greenhouse gas emissions targets to reduce emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. Two dozen of Rep. Lieu's colleagues have cosponsored his bill.

Congressman Lieu has also cosponsored various bills to fight climate change including H.R. 763, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. He also supports initiatives to support the electric vehicle industry and to protect California's authority to set vehicle emissions standards.

ON PROTECTING VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

In 2017, Hurricanes Maria and Irma struck Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands cutting off access to power for most communities on the island. In the wake of these hurricanes, Congressman Lieu led a [letter](#) signed by more than 80 Members of Congress urging FEMA to rebuild the electric grids on Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands in a resilient manner.

Subsequently, Congressman Lieu introduced the bipartisan [Renewable Energy for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands Act](#). This legislation creates a grant program to empower local communities to build up renewable energy systems to ensure reliable access to clean energy. The [House of Representatives passed](#) a modified version of this bill as part of a comprehensive clean energy bill in September 2020.

ON PUBLIC LANDS

Congressman Lieu has supported various measures to protect and expand public lands throughout the country. In 2020, he was proud to support the Great American Outdoors Act to permanently fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund and provide resources to public lands, including the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. He has also introduced the [Santa Monica Mountains Recreation Area Boundary Adjustment Study Act](#) to direct the National Park Service to study the feasibility of expanding the recreation area along the coast of the Santa Monica Bay. The House of Representatives passed this legislation in 2019.

ON BANNING OFFSHORE DRILLING

As the representative of coastal Los Angeles County, Congressman Lieu recognizes the immense value of protecting our coast and the need to prohibit offshore drilling. Following reports that the Trump Administration sought to expand offshore drilling, Congressman Lieu led [multiple letters](#) with Members of Congress from California, Oregon, and Washington opposing drilling off of the Pacific Coast. He has also cosponsored the [Coastal and Marine Economies Protection Act](#) to prohibit new drilling in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

- [USA TODAY](#): Trump administration offshore drilling move reeks of illegal political favoritism

ON HOLDING POLLUTERS RESPONSIBLE

Congressman Lieu has been a leading voice in efforts to hold [ExxonMobil and other fossil fuel companies](#) accountable for efforts to deceive the public of the causes and effects of climate change. Has written to the [Department of Justice](#), the [Securities and Exchange Commission](#), and the [California Attorney General](#) requesting investigations. Further, he and Senator Whitehouse introduced a "[Web of Denial](#)" [Concurrent Resolution](#), which condemns groups who have misled the public on tobacco, lead, and climate.

ON CLIMATE SECURITY

Having served on active duty in the U.S. Air Force, Congressman Lieu is intimately aware of the challenges facing our military and of the threat that climate change poses to national security. In April 2019, Rep. Lieu participated in a House Foreign Affairs Committee on "How Climate Change Threatens U.S. National Security." During his [testimony](#), he discussed the importance of various U.S. military bases around the world— including at Diego Garcia and in Guam—and how they are threatened by climate change. He also participated in a [UCLA event](#) to discuss the national security implications of climate change in October 2020.