

That is why I have introduced legislation called the Reach Every Veteran in Crisis Act, to ensure those resources are used effectively and efficiently to provide veterans with the support services they need and so richly deserve.

It is my hope that this legislation will help our veterans during their time of need and, hopefully, save the lives of our Nation's heroes.

I encourage any veteran who is facing crisis or anyone who is concerned about a loved one to call the Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255.

PLIGHT OF PUERTO RICO

(Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, at a hearing examining Puerto Rico's Financial Oversight Board, I plan to stand strong with the Puerto Rican families I represent and demand to hear the board's plan for reversing Puerto Rico's plight.

At a time that families are leaving the island, schools are closing, and homes and communities destroyed by Hurricane Maria still have not been rebuilt, the fiscal board is forcing Puerto Ricans to sacrifice pensions, wages, and crucial government services.

People are hungry, using plastic tarps as roofs, and living without electricity or heat.

I toured the devastated areas earlier this year and met with families in my district whose relatives are still suffering last week.

Well over a year after Maria, less than 20 percent of the aid that the fiscal board anticipated has been delivered.

How can Puerto Rico recover while its oversight board continues to squeeze the island and President Trump continues to block disaster aid and food stamps?

Tomorrow, I will stand with our brothers and sisters in Puerto Rico and demand answers to these questions.

FOUR PILLARS FOR AN INFRASTRUCTURE DEAL

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, House Democrats have an opportunity to create substantive, innovative, and cost-effective legislation that will bring jobs and economic growth to America through an infrastructure bill.

As co-chair of the New Democratic Coalition's Infrastructure Task Force, we are actively drafting policy priorities to be considered for a House infrastructure bill. It is important to have Americans of all sectors' voices as we do this, and last week the infrastructure listening sessions were hosted by Representatives COLIN ALLRED and MARC VEASEY in Dallas and JOE CUNNINGHAM in Charleston.

New Democrats are intensely focused on receiving and implementing forward-looking and practical ideas to help everyday Americans use infrastructure that supports job creation and advancement, multiple forms of transportation, policy proposals to mitigate climate change, and streamline bureaucracy.

It is my hope that the President and Republicans will join us as we focus on four pillars for an infrastructure deal: modernize America's infrastructure and seek new revenue, create an infrastructure bank to finance the project, create incentives for communities most in need to finance those projects through grant programs, and encourage innovation and reform through responsible regulatory streamlining and the utilization of public-private partnerships that work.

Building and renovating roads, bridges, ports, greener schools and hospitals, and broadband all need the support of Congress to advance the flow of America's goods and services. It is what we need to do to keep our dominance in the economy.

CLIMATE CHANGE IS OUR PRESENT

(Mr. ROUDA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, climate change isn't a question of if or even when. Climate change is not our future. It is our present.

Kids with asthma are finding it harder and harder to breathe on their walks to school or to the playground. Raging fires have reduced whole communities to ash in my home State of California. Rising seas threaten to swallow family homes on the coast. Extreme weather has devastated our country from the coast of Puerto Rico to the coast of Orange County.

So, it bears asking: What will it take for politicians to see what the American people already know to be true?

Americans are already suffering from climate change, and the threat to humankind grows every day.

In 2015, almost every country in the world recognized the climate crisis and signed the Paris Agreement. The United States led the way.

In 2017, this administration abdicated the throne of American global leadership and joined Russia, Turkey, and Iran in the cheap seats.

This administration failed to lower carbon emissions and protect the lungs, homes, and wallets of the American people.

The Climate Action Now Act demands accountability from this White House. It is an up-and-down vote on whether the Members of this body support a livable future for humankind.

PAWNS

(Mr. RYAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, the workers of the United States of America are tired of being pawns in this big corporate game.

President Trump came to my community and said: Don't sell your house. Don't sell your house. We are going to get these house prices back up.

And, since that time, we lost the second shift at our General Motors plant; and General Motors, on that same day that the workers were walking out, announced they are building a new factory in Mexico.

President Trump said: Don't sell your house.

A few months later, General Motors lays off the first shift. They tell the workers 2 days after Thanksgiving.

And, just a couple of days ago, a trucking company, Falcon Transport, just outside of Youngstown, Ohio, their workers get a text message—600 workers get a text message at 8:00 on a Saturday night: You lost your job.

We got bailout money for every bank that wants one. Every savings and loan, every corporation gets a tax cut to the tune of \$2.3 trillion, and no one gives a damn about the workers.

If we can bail out the corporations that have done everything wrong, we can start helping the workers who have done everything right.

CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL

(Mr. KILMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, there is no denying it, climate change is real, and Congress has a moral obligation to act.

The communities that I represent in Washington State are already experiencing the impacts. Coastal Tribes are in the process of trying to move to higher ground. Changing ocean chemistry is impacting our marine life and the industries that depend on it.

The Department of Defense has called it a threat multiplier that makes our world less safe.

And, today, Congress will take an important, tangible step toward addressing climate change by passing the Climate Action Now Act, a bill that reaffirms America's commitment to the Paris climate agreement and directs the administration to develop a comprehensive plan to meet the significant emission reductions that we as a Nation, and nearly every Nation in the world, committed to back in 2015.

We know that making progress is not only about protecting our environment, but also about protecting our economic interests and our national security.

The American people are not just demanding action, but leadership, to counter the impacts of climate change.

This legislation is an important first step toward meeting our long-term carbon emission goals, and I am proud to cosponsor it and vote in favor of it.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COSTA) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 30, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 30, 2019, at 4:33 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1222.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 9, CLIMATE ACTION NOW
ACT

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 329 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 329

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 9) to direct the President to develop a plan for the United States to meet its nationally determined contribution under the Paris Agreement, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 90 minutes, with 60 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TED LIEU of California). The gentleman

from Massachusetts is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 329. It provides for the consideration of H.R. 9 under a structured rule that makes 30 amendments in order.

It also provides for 90 minutes of general debate, with the chair and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs controlling 60 minutes, and the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce controlling 30 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, the measure we are considering today makes clear that under this Democratic majority science is once again respected here in the House of Representatives, that facts matter, and that the word of the fossil fuel lobby is not going to rule the day, because there is no debate on our side about something as basic as climate change.

The evidence is overwhelming. It is happening, Mr. Speaker, and human beings are playing a defining role.

Now, you don't have to take my word for it. You can ask virtually any scientist working in the field today, because 97 percent of all climate scientists agree that it is happening—97 percent.

There is a United Nations body charged with looking at the science here called the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Do you know what it has found? That the evidence is unequivocal.

The facts are as clear as day.

But you don't even need to read the report to know that something is happening here. Just look out your window. Once-in-a-generation hurricanes are becoming commonplace; record-breaking storms are becoming the norm; and drastic temperature swings are now just the way it is.

My district is home to more than 1,800 farms, and I visit with farmers often. Climate change isn't just an issue on their minds; it is sometimes the top issue on their minds when they are asked about the challenges that they face.

These farmers have told me about how heat waves disrupt what was once a reliable growing season and how unexpected frosts have completely wiped

out their crops. Rainfall that once ran like clockwork has given way to droughts that could wipe out their entire profits.

They don't question what is going on. They are not debating the science of whether climate change is real. They know. They know.

□ 1230

They can see it, seemingly every day as it impacts their livelihoods. I wish the Republicans took climate change as seriously. But instead of treating it as a threat, they treat it as a punch line.

A Republican Senator once brought a snowball onto the Senate floor, trying to prove that climate change isn't real because it still snows sometimes. You can't make this stuff up.

Just the other day, President Trump mocked clean energy by suggesting that windmills cause cancer. Are you kidding me? That is the President of the United States.

I won't pretend to know what goes on in the President's head, but I know this: His announcement in June 2017 that he would be pulling the United States out of the Paris climate agreement was indefensible.

This agreement set an ambitious goal of keeping warming below 2 degrees Celsius and established binding commitments for countries to meet to reduce emissions. It recognized climate change is a global problem that requires a global solution.

If the President gets his way and actually withdraws the United States, we would stand alone as one of the only nations in the world not to be part of it. Even Syria, a nation embroiled in war, announced that it would sign on.

Thankfully, we are not out of it yet, but we could be starting as early as 2020.

H.R. 9 would ensure the President wouldn't get his way by requiring him to develop a plan to meet our commitments under the Paris Agreement.

It is called the Climate Action Now Act because we can't wait, Mr. Speaker. Climate change isn't some far-off threat. It is not a problem for our great-grandchildren or even our grandchildren to solve. It is our problem. It is here today, impacting our Nation and our future.

It is not just about the weather. Climate change also negatively impacts public health and our national security. Experts have even developed a new term to describe those displaced by its destructive impacts, "American climate refugees."

This is not the time for handwringing or indecisiveness and not the time to let the fossil fuel industry that funds some campaigns outweigh the facts. It is certainly not the time for more stunts or snowballs on the floor.

This is the time to act boldly, to listen to what the scientists are telling us, and to protect our planet for future generations. That is what H.R. 9 is all about.