

Our climate action plan is a comprehensive road map for Congress to build a healthy, resilient, and just America. By enacting our recommendations, we would achieve net-zero carbon pollution by no later than mid-century, save more than 60,000 lives each year from reduced air pollution, and generate health and climate benefits that would help save close to \$8 trillion.

I am also pleased to see many of our recommendations, included in H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act.

As a leader on the Education and Labor Committee and the granddaughter of a coal miner, I know the way we transition to a clean energy economy and support workers is as important as the transition itself.

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At a time when more than 47 million workers are unemployed, our recovery package must focus on creating and restoring good-paying jobs. We have the opportunity to incorporate investment in climate resilience and clean energy in the process.

As co-chair of the House Oceans Caucus and the Congressional Estuary Caucus, I am pleased that our climate action plan recognizes the power of the ocean to be part of the solution.

The climate action plan calls for the conservation of at least 30 percent of our ocean by 2030 to help preserve and protect blue carbon ecosystems that can help serve as a natural climate solution by absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Our plan provides solutions to protect the planet and make it more resilient for future generations. It will result in communities and an economy that is stronger, healthier, and fairer.

Now, we must turn this roadmap into action.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chair CASTOR and the select committee staff for their tireless work.

CONGRATULATING DALE WATTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service and accomplishments of Dale Watts, a resident of Tega Cay, South Carolina.

Dale and his wife, Barbara, and family have been a part of the greater Fort Mill-Tega Cay community for over 40 years.

Dale began his career in medical sales, and after retiring after 30 years, he entered the field of real estate with his wife, Barbara, where he successfully owns and manages commercial and residential properties.

Dale's involvement in the community is legendary, as he has volunteered for numerous groups and civic organizations, including joining the Tega Cay Fire Department No. 56, where he became a certified firefighter;

joining the Tega Cay Lions Club, where he served as president for three terms; his tireless work with the Lake Wylie Lutheran Church Community Cafe; his activities as a member of Grace Presbyterian Church, where he was active with the Meals on Wheels program, the Senior Citizens Christmas Party, the International Student Exchange, and the Tega Cay Community Service Committee; and the list goes on and on.

As a result of his tireless efforts, he received numerous awards, including Firefighter of the Year in 1990, Tega Cay Voluntary Fire Department Officers Award in 2009, the Fire Chief's Award in 2010, and the Melvin Jones Fellow Humanitarian Award in 1995. He was inducted into the South Carolina Lions Hall of Fame in 2018 and was named the Tega Cay Citizen of the Year in 2005–2006.

Dale has been married to his wife, Barbara, for 41 years and has five children and five grandchildren.

In the words of many friends in the Tega Cay-Fort Mill community, "If you need something done, just call Dale."

Dale Watts has dedicated his entire life in service to others and exemplifies the slogan "Service Above Self." As a result of his tireless work, the community, the State, and the Nation are a better place to live and raise a family.

SETTING U.S. ON PATH TO REACH NET-ZERO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BROWNLEY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, in December 2017, the Thomas fire destroyed over 280,000 acres, with almost all of it in my district in Ventura County. It is the second largest wildfire in all of California's recorded history.

The day it started, my constituents Trisha and Jed received a terrifying call. Evacuation orders were just issued. A wildfire was fast approaching their home, and their children were put in a car and whisked away.

It was an unbearable week for Trisha and Jed. They couldn't stop thinking of what might have happened to their children, all while mourning the loss of their home that was burned to the ground, including the invaluable keepsakes Jed had just moved to the house after his father's passing.

Natural disasters like these are becoming all too common, not only in Ventura County, but throughout California and the Western States.

Floods, tornadoes, and hurricanes, from Texas to Florida and all along the East Coast, are increasing with alarming frequency. Glaciers in the Arctic are melting faster than ever before. Ocean temperatures have increased in the last three decades at a pace greater than recorded history. Sea level rise is accelerating. Atmospheric temperatures are also on the rise.

These are facts. They are destroying homes. They are taking lives. They are wreaking havoc on our communities and communities across the planet.

Over the last year and a half, the Select Committee on Climate Crisis has been tasked with finding bold and transformative solutions to tackle this global emergency.

This report, the most comprehensive report on the impact of climate change and how to address it in the history of Congress, lays out policies, legislation, and a roadmap that will put the brakes on global warming while creating equitable, good-paying jobs of the future, and, at the same time, putting American innovation and ingenuity first.

The select committee has written a report that identifies 12 pillars on which Congress can make actionable changes and sets the U.S. on a path of reaching net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

The report takes a deep and wide dive into all the sectors of our economy that contribute to climate change, from agriculture and transportation to how we build our buildings; to water, electric, and telecommunications infrastructure; to energy production, manufacturing, tax policy, and national security.

The impact of climate change is broad, and it can be addressed only through comprehensive and bold solutions.

I am very proud that the select committee offers up so many of those solutions, and where solutions don't exist, it lays out the challenge that American ingenuity can and will overcome.

Today, we face what appears to be an even more imminent crisis: a pandemic that has crushed the global economy and taken almost 130,000 American lives and half a million lives worldwide.

We are struggling with long, deep racial injustice and how to address it. But we will rise from this darkness, and how we rise from it will impact everyone on the planet, not only alive today, but for generations to come.

I hope that we will search for solutions that draw on the ideals that created this great Nation: equity, justice, and ingenuity.

As we rebuild our economy, let's do so by investing in the technologies, practices, and methods for the future and with the urgency of now that our changing climate demands.

As we seek to right injustice and inequity, let's not forget the role the rise of American industry played in creating some of that injustice and inequity, as it did with the climate crisis we have before us, and let's choose a path forward that rights that ship.

We are suffering now, but we should, we must, rise up with a clearer vision for a better future.

Climate change provides the greatest existential threat to human existence, but it also offers the greatest opportunity for mankind and womankind to meet that threat and to beat it.