

Whereas further increases in global temperature will saddle children with an enormous, perhaps incalculable, cost burden, undermining their economic security and the economic security of the United States;

Whereas children are deserving of special consideration and protection with respect to human-caused climate change;

Whereas children on the frontlines of human-caused climate change across the United States and globally have risen up and called upon government leaders around the world to take concrete, science-based, and equitable action—

(1) to address human-caused climate change; and

(2) to ensure climate justice for their generation, future generations, and frontline and vulnerable communities, including communities of color, low-income communities, and indigenous peoples;

Whereas global atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations must be reduced to below 350 parts per million by the end of the 21st century, with further reductions thereafter, to restore the energy balance of the planet, stabilize the climate system, and protect the ice sheets and oceans for posterity;

Whereas existing and future adverse public health and other impacts and costs to children and the United States can be significantly mitigated if the United States acts promptly to reduce emissions from fossil fuels in the United States;

Whereas numerous experts have concluded that there are multiple technically and economically feasible pathways to place all sectors of the economy of the United States on an emissions-reduction path consistent with returning global atmospheric carbon dioxide to 350 parts per million by 2100;

Whereas producing energy in the United States with noncarbon-emitting sources will result in energy costs within the range of recent experience, ultimately saving consumers money and stabilizing the cost of energy, while increasing the number of jobs in the energy sector; and

Whereas multiple Federal departments and agencies can exercise authority delegated by Congress to prevent and respond to climate change, including—

- (1) the Department of Energy;
- (2) the Department of the Interior;
- (3) the Department of Agriculture;
- (4) the Environmental Protection Agency;
- (5) the Department of Commerce; and
- (6) the Department of State: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) renewed leadership by the United States is needed immediately to address the human-caused climate crisis that is disproportionately affecting the health, economic opportunity, and fundamental rights of the children of the United States; and

(2) there is a human-caused climate crisis that—

(A) has inspired children across the United States to organize and demand immediate government action to protect their fundamental rights from the perils of climate change; and

(B) demands a national, comprehensive, science-based, and just climate recovery plan that—

(i) is prepared by Federal departments and agencies pursuant to delegated authority over energy and climate policy; and

(ii) to uphold the fundamental rights of children, puts the United States on a trajectory consistent with reducing global atmospheric carbon dioxide to below 350 parts per million by 2100.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. ERNST. Mr. President, I have 8 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Chad F. Wolf to be Secretary of U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at time to be determined, to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at 2 p.m., to conduct a closed roundtable.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 4675

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4675) to amend the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume executive session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Thursday, September 24; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the Senate resume the Young nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of Senator BENNET.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senate stands in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:38 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 6:42 p.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. BLACKBURN).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

SUPREME COURT NOMINATIONS

Mr. BENNET. Madam President, I want to say how much I appreciate your staying late this evening for this.

Last night, I had the chance to speak about the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, somebody who, as much as anyone in our history, advanced the cause of equality between men and women. When President Clinton named