

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 28, 2019

Dear Colleague:

We write to invite you to join us in cosponsoring a resolution on climate change that Senate Democrats introduced this week (S.J. Res. 9).

Just three months ago, thirteen federal agencies released a comprehensive climate report that described the dire economic and health consequences we face if we do not take meaningful action to address climate change.

This report, the Fourth National Climate Assessment, was developed over a three-year period by more than 300 federal experts and non-federal experts who volunteered their time and expertise. The report found, among other things:

- From our warming oceans to our atmosphere, climate change is happening, and human activities are greatly contributing to the problem;
- There is a direct link between climate change and extreme weather events, which in 2017 cost the American economy more than \$300 billion—more than any year prior;
- By 2050, wildfire seasons could burn up to six times more forest area every year;
- Rising temperatures, combined with increasingly frequent and severe rain, mean that farmers are likely to experience a reduction in corn and soybean yields by up to 25 percent by the end of the century; and,
- If we do not act on climate change, we will see economic pain across every major sector of our country. The report concludes that at the end of the century, climate change could slash our gross domestic product (GDP) by 10 percent. That is more than double the losses of the Great Recession a decade ago.

Large majorities of the American people believe climate change is a serious problem and want their leaders to take action. Senate Democrats stand ready to do just that. Doing so, however, means agreeing on some basic things contained in S.J. Res. 9. The resolution is simple, it states that it is the sense of Congress that—

- (1) climate change is real;
- (2) human activity during the last century is the dominant cause of the climate crisis; and
- (3) the United States and Congress should take immediate action to address the challenge of climate change.

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The scientific consensus about climate change should no longer be an open question in the Republican-controlled Senate. We hope you'll join with us in this resolution that seeks to put the Senate on the record. If you wish to cosponsor, please have your staff contact Mary Frances Repko at the Committee on Environment and Public Works by email at mary_frances_repko@epw.senate.gov or at 4-8832.

With best personal regards, we are

Sincerely yours,



Tom Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public
Works



Charles E. Schumer
Democratic Leader