

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

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.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 27, 2019

Ms. CASTOR of Florida (for herself, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. HOYER, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. NEAL, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. BEYER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. PORTER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SOTO, Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. CRIST, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. ROUDA, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. COHEN, Mr. PANNETTA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. FRANKEL, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. WELCH, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. TONKO, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. KILMER, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. ROSE of New York, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. DEAN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. SCHRIER, and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

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.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Climate Action Now
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) In Paris, on December 12, 2015, parties to
9 the United Nations Framework Convention on Cli-
10 mate Change (UNFCCC) reached a landmark agree-
11 ment to combat climate change and to accelerate
12 and intensify the actions and investments needed for
13 a sustainable low carbon future.

14 (2) The Paris Agreement’s central aim is to
15 strengthen the global response to the threat of cli-
16 mate change by keeping a global temperature rise
17 well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial lev-
18 els and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature in-
19 crease even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

20 (3) The Paris Agreement requires all parties to
21 put forward their best efforts through nationally de-
22 termined contributions (NDCs) and to strengthen
23 these efforts in the years ahead.

1 (4) The Paris Agreement further requires each
2 party to update its nationally determined contribu-
3 tion every 5 years, with each successive nationally
4 determined contribution representing a progression
5 beyond the previous nationally determined contribu-
6 tion, and reflecting the party’s highest possible am-
7 bition.

8 (5) The United States communicated its nation-
9 ally determined contribution to achieve an economy-
10 wide target of reducing its greenhouse gas emissions
11 by 26 to 28 percent below its 2005 level in 2025 and
12 to make best efforts to reduce its emissions by 28
13 percent.

14 (6) A number of existing laws, regulations, and
15 other mandatory measures in the United States are
16 relevant to achieving this target, including the Clean
17 Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.), the Energy Policy
18 Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–486), and the Energy
19 Independence and Security Act of 2007 (Public Law
20 110–140).

21 (7) On June 1, 2017, President Trump an-
22 nounced his intention to withdraw the United States
23 from the Paris Agreement, which would leave the
24 United States as the only UNFCCC member state
25 that is not a signatory to the Paris Agreement.

1 (8) Under the terms of the Paris Agreement,
2 the earliest possible effective withdrawal date by the
3 United States is November 4, 2020. However, the
4 United States is still obligated to maintain certain
5 commitments under the Paris Agreement, such as
6 continuing to report its emissions to the United Na-
7 tions.

8 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS TO ADVANCE THE**
9 **WITHDRAWAL OF THE UNITED STATES FROM**
10 **THE PARIS AGREEMENT.**

11 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds
12 are authorized to be appropriated, obligated, or expended
13 to take any action to advance the withdrawal of the United
14 States from the Paris Agreement.

15 **SEC. 4. PLAN FOR THE UNITED STATES TO MEET ITS NA-**
16 **TIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION**
17 **UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the
19 date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall de-
20 velop and submit to the appropriate congressional commit-
21 tees and make available to the public a plan for the United
22 States to meet its nationally determined contribution
23 under the Paris Agreement that describes—

24 (1) how the United States will achieve an econ-
25 omy-wide target of reducing its greenhouse gas

1 emissions by 26 to 28 percent below its 2005 level
2 by 2025; and

3 (2) how the United States will use the Paris
4 Agreement’s transparency provisions to confirm that
5 other parties to the Agreement with major econo-
6 mies are fulfilling their announced contributions to
7 the Agreement.

8 (b) **UPDATES TO PLAN.**—Not later than one year
9 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually
10 thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate
11 congressional committees and make available to the public
12 an updated plan under subsection (a).

13 (c) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-**
14 **FINED.**—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
15 sional committees” means—

16 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
17 Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House
18 of Representatives; and

19 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the
20 Committee on Environment and Public Works, and
21 the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of
22 the Senate.

23 **SEC. 5. PARIS AGREEMENT DEFINED.**

24 In this Act, the term “Paris Agreement” means the
25 decision by the United Nations Framework Convention on

- 1 Climate Change's 21st Conference of Parties in Paris,
- 2 France, adopted December 12, 2015.

