

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1

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Introduced and read first time: January 16, 2020

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Declaration of a Climate Emergency and Implementation of a Climate**  
3 **Mobilization Effort**

4 FOR the purpose of declaring that a climate and ecological emergency threatens the State,  
5 the nation, civilization, humanity, and the natural world; committing the State to a  
6 statewide climate mobilization effort to reverse global warming and the current  
7 ecological crisis, end statewide greenhouse gas emissions by a certain year, draw  
8 down carbon from the atmosphere, and accelerate the development and  
9 implementation of adaptation and resilience strategies; calling on the U.S. Congress,  
10 the President of the United States, and all governments and people worldwide to  
11 declare a climate emergency, implement a climate mobilization effort to reverse  
12 global warming and the current ecological crisis, and provide maximum protection  
13 for all people and species of the world; and generally relating to the declaration of a  
14 climate emergency and implementation of a climate mobilization effort.

15 WHEREAS, Restoring a safe and stable climate requires climate mobilization – an  
16 emergency mobilization of resources on a scale not seen since World War II that will:

17 (1) reach zero greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors of the economy;

18 (2) rapidly and safely draw down and remove all the excess carbon from  
19 the atmosphere at emergency speed and until safe pre–industrial climate conditions are  
20 restored; and

21 (3) implement measures to protect all people and species from the  
22 consequences of an abrupt climate breakdown; and

23 WHEREAS, Measures to restore a safe climate include:



(1) a rapid, just, and managed phase-out of fossil fuels;

(2) ending the production of greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible to establish a zero-emissions economy;

(3) a widespread effort to safely draw down excess carbon from the atmosphere;

(4) a full transition to a regenerative agriculture system; and

(5) an end to the sixth mass extinction through widespread conservation and restoration of ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, Justice requires that frontline and marginalized communities, which have historically borne the brunt of the extractive fossil fuel economy, participate actively in the planning and implementation of this mobilization effort and that they benefit first from the transition to a climate-safe economy; and

WHEREAS, The massive scope and scale of action necessary to stabilize the climate and biosphere will require unprecedented levels of public awareness, engagement, and deliberation to develop and implement effective, just, and equitable policies to address the climate emergency; and

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland can act as a global leader by implementing an emergency climate mobilization effort to:

(1) convert the economy to an ecologically, socially, and economically regenerative local economy at emergency speed; and

(2) advocate for regional, national, and international efforts necessary to reverse global warming and the ecological crisis; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the State of Maryland declares that a climate and ecological emergency threatens our State, our nation, civilization, humanity, and the natural world; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the State of Maryland commits to a statewide climate mobilization effort to:

(1) reverse global warming and the current ecological crisis;

(2) eliminate, with appropriate financial and regulatory assistance from federal authorities, the production of greenhouse gas emissions in the State as quickly as possible but not later than 2030;

(3) immediately implement an effort to safely draw down carbon from the atmosphere, thereby ensuring a just transition for residents; and

1                   (4)     accelerate the development and implementation of adaptation and  
2 resilience strategies in preparation for intensifying local climate impacts; and be it further

3               RESOLVED, That the State of Maryland calls on the U.S. Congress, the President  
4 of the United States, and all governments and people worldwide to:

5                   (1)     declare a climate emergency;

6                   (2)     implement a climate mobilization effort to reverse global warming and  
7 the current ecological crisis; and

8                   (3)     provide maximum protection for all people and species of the world; and  
9 be it further

10               RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
11 Legislative Services to the Honorable Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor of Maryland; the  
12 Honorable William C. Ferguson, IV, President of the Senate of Maryland; and the  
13 Honorable Adrienne A. Jones, Speaker of the House of Delegates.