

116TH CONGRESS
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H. R. 1201

To direct Federal departments and agencies to perform certain functions to ensure that climate change-related impacts are fully considered in the development of national security doctrine, policies, and plans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 2019

Mr. LYNCH (for himself, Mr. TONKO, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. COHEN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. McEACHIN, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. HIMES, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. WELCH, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Mr. MCGOVERN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Foreign Affairs, Science, Space, and Technology, and Intelligence (Permanent Select), 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 Federal departments and agencies to perform certain functions to ensure that climate change-related impacts are fully considered in the development of national security doctrine, policies, and plans, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Climate Change Na-
3 tional Security Strategy Act of 2019”.

4 **SEC. 2. POLICY.**

5 It is the policy of the Federal Government to ensure
6 that the current impacts of climate change, and those an-
7 ticipated in the coming decades, be identified and consid-
8 ered in the development and implementation of relevant
9 national security doctrine, policies, and plans.

10 **SEC. 3. COORDINATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND NA-
11 TIONAL SECURITY.**

12 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The National Security Advi-
13 sor and the Director of the Office of Science and Tech-
14 nology Policy, acting jointly, shall establish an interagency
15 working group, to be known as the Climate and National
16 Security Working Group, to coordinate the development
17 of a strategic approach to identify, assess, and share infor-
18 mation on current and projected climate-related impacts
19 on national security interests and to inform the develop-
20 ment of national security doctrine, policies, and plans.

21 (b) **FUNCTIONS.**—The Working Group, in close col-
22 laboration with the United States Global Change Research
23 Program, shall—

24 (1) identify the U.S. national security priorities
25 that are within the scope of the mission of the
26 Working Group;

1 (2) develop recommendations for requirements
2 for climate and social science data and intelligence
3 analyses, as appropriate, that support national secu-
4 rity interests;

5 (3) catalog climate science data, intelligence
6 analyses, and other products and programs that sup-
7 port or should be considered in the development of
8 national security doctrine, policy, and plans, includ-
9 ing—

10 (A) climate and social science data reposi-
11 tories and analytical platforms;

12 (B) climate modeling, simulation, and pro-
13 jection capabilities; and

14 (C) information-sharing tools and re-
15 sources supporting climate risk analyses and as-
16 sessments, such as the Climate Data Initiative,
17 the Climate Resilience Toolkit, the Global
18 Change Information System, and the National
19 Climate Assessment;

20 (4) identify information and program gaps that
21 limit consideration of climate change-related impacts
22 in developing national security doctrine, policies, and
23 plans and provide descriptions of these gaps to Fed-
24 eral science agencies and the United States intel-
25 ligence community to inform future research require-

1 ments and priorities, including collection priorities
2 on climate data, models, simulations, and projec-
3 tions;

4 (5) facilitate the production and exchange of
5 climate data and information with relevant stake-
6 holders, including the United States intelligence
7 community, and private sector partners, as appro-
8 priate;

9 (6) produce, as appropriate, and make available
10 science-informed intelligence assessments to agencies
11 having responsibilities in the development of national
12 security doctrine, policies, and plans in order to
13 identify climate change-related impacts and
14 prioritize actions related thereto;

15 (7) establish, by consensus, guidance for Work-
16 ing Group members on coordinating, sharing, and
17 exchanging climate science data among the mem-
18 bers, and with the National Science and Technology
19 Council;

20 (8) provide a venue for enhancing the under-
21 standing of the links between climate change-related
22 impacts and national security interests and dis-
23 cussing the opportunities for climate mitigation and
24 adaptation activities to address national security
25 issues;

1 (9) work to improve the Federal Government's
2 capability and capacity to characterize greenhouse
3 gas sources and sinks accurately at sub-continental
4 scales;

5 (10) recommend research guidelines, in coordi-
6 nation with the National Science and Technology
7 Council, concerning the Federal Government's abil-
8 ity to detect climate intervention activities;

9 (11) develop, by consensus, guidance for Work-
10 ing Group members on building climate resilience in
11 countries vulnerable to climate change-related im-
12 pacts;

13 (12) take into account defined requirements
14 and current capabilities described in paragraphs (2)
15 and (3) of this subsection to facilitate the consider-
16 ation of climate change-related impacts into national
17 security doctrine, policies, and plans;

18 (13) have classified and unclassified capabili-
19 ties, as required and appropriate, to consolidate and
20 make available climate change-related impact infor-
21 mation, intelligence analyses, and assessments for
22 access and use by Working Group member agencies;

23 (14) identify the most current information on
24 regional, country, and geographic areas most vulner-
25 able to current and projected impacts of climate var-

1 iability in the near-, mid-, and long-term (as defined
2 in section 5), in order to support assessments of na-
3 tional security implications of climate change, and
4 identify areas most vulnerable to these impacts dur-
5 ing these timeframes;

6 (15) develop recommendations for the Secretary
7 of State to help ensure that the work of United
8 States embassies, including their planning processes,
9 are informed by relevant climate change-related
10 analyses; and

11 (16) coordinate on the development of quan-
12 titative models, predictive mapping products, and
13 forecasts to anticipate the various pathways through
14 which climate change may affect public health as an
15 issue of national security.

16 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The members of the Work-
18 ing Group shall include the following officials and
19 representatives (or their designees)—

20 (A) the National Security Advisor;

21 (B) the Director of the Office of Science
22 and Technology Policy; and

23 (C) the representatives, appointed by the
24 National Security Advisor and the Director of
25 the Office of Science and Technology Policy

1 (acting jointly), at the Assistant Secretary or
2 equivalent level, of—

- 3 (i) the Department of State;
4 (ii) the Department of the Treasury;
5 (iii) the Department of Defense;
6 (iv) the Department of Justice;
7 (v) the Department of the Interior;
8 (vi) the Department of Agriculture;
9 (vii) the Department of Commerce;
10 (viii) the Department of Health and
11 Human Services;
12 (ix) the Department of Transpor-
13 tation;
14 (x) the Department of Energy;
15 (xi) the Department of Homeland Se-
16 curity;
17 (xii) the United States Agency for
18 International Development;
19 (xiii) the Environmental Protection
20 Agency;
21 (xiv) the National Aeronautics and
22 Space Administration;
23 (xv) the Office of the Director of Na-
24 tional Intelligence;

1 (xvi) the U.S. Mission to the United
2 Nations;

3 (xvii) the Office of Management and
4 Budget;

5 (xviii) the Council on Environmental
6 Quality;

7 (xix) the Millennium Challenge Cor-
8 poration; and

9 (xx) any other agency or office as des-
10 ignated by the Co-Chairs.

11 (2) CO-CHAIRS.—The National Security Advisor
12 and the Director of the Office of Science and Tech-
13 nology Policy, or their designees, shall co-chair the
14 Working Group.

15 (d) ACTION PLAN.—Not later than 90 days after the
16 date of enactment of this Act, the Working Group shall,
17 by consensus, develop an action plan, that—

18 (1) identifies specific steps that are required to
19 perform its functions;

20 (2) includes specific objectives, milestones,
21 timelines, and identification of agencies responsible
22 for completion of all actions described therein;

23 (3) includes recommendations to inform the de-
24 velopment of agency implementation plans, as de-
25 scribed in section 4; and

1 (4) be submitted to the co-chairs and the ap-
2 propriate congressional committees, including—

3 (A) the House Committee on Oversight
4 and Reform;

5 (B) the Senate Committee on Homeland
6 Security and Governmental Affairs;

7 (C) the Senate Committee on Armed Serv-
8 ices;

9 (D) the House Committee on Armed Serv-
10 ices;

11 (E) the House Committee on Natural Re-
12 sources; and

13 (F) the Senate Committee on Environment
14 and Public Works.

15 **SEC. 4. FEDERAL AGENCY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.**

16 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 150 days after the
17 date of enactment of this Act, the departments and agen-
18 cies listed in subsection 3(c) shall each develop an appro-
19 priate implementation plan supporting the policy described
20 in section 2. Such implementation plans may be classified,
21 as required, to meet specific agency requirements.

22 (b) **CONTENTS OF IMPLEMENTATION PLANS.**—Im-
23 plementation plans shall consider for inclusion a descrip-
24 tion of how the respective departments and agencies will
25 accomplish the following:

1 (1) Identifying, sustaining, and strengthening
2 climate-related data repositories, tools, and modeling
3 products that inform climate change-related impacts
4 on national security.

5 (2) Identifying climate change-related risks to
6 departments and agency missions, and risks that
7 may be caused by departments and agency policies,
8 programs, and actions concerning international de-
9 velopment objectives, fragility, and regional stability.

10 (3) Pursuing departments and agency adapta-
11 tion strategies and methods that address climate
12 change-related impacts on national security and
13 homeland defense.

14 (4) Identifying and implementing climate
15 change-related information-sharing opportunities
16 and arrangements through international develop-
17 ment activities, military-to-military engagements,
18 and government-to-government climate-related data
19 exchanges.

20 (5) Identifying economic considerations arising
21 from the impacts of climate change globally and the
22 resulting specific impacts on national security, in-
23 cluding macroeconomic analyses and data-sharing
24 mechanisms.

1 (6) Identifying the potential impact of climate
2 change on human mobility, including migration and
3 displacement, and the resulting impacts on national
4 security.

5 (7) Identifying climate change-related impacts
6 on global water, food security, and nutrition and the
7 resulting impacts on national security, and recom-
8 mending actions to mitigate these impacts.

9 (8) Identifying climate change-related global
10 health security concerns affecting humans, animals,
11 and plants, and developing options to address them.

12 (9) Developing a department or agency-specific
13 approach to address climate-related hazards and
14 threats to national security.

15 (10) Determining and acting on climate change-
16 related threats to infrastructure at the asset, sys-
17 tem, and regional level and acting to strengthen the
18 safety, security, and resilience of infrastructure crit-
19 ical to national security.

20 (11) Incorporating climate change-related im-
21 pact information and considerations into department
22 and agency technical and executive education and
23 training programs.

1 (c) REPORTS.—Federal agencies shall update their
2 implementation plans required by this section not less
3 than annually.

4 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) ADAPTATION.—The term “adaptation” re-
7 fers to the adjustment in natural or human systems
8 in anticipation of or in response to a changing envi-
9 ronment in a way that effectively uses beneficial op-
10 portunities or reduces negative effects.

11 (2) CLIMATE.—The term “climate” refers to
12 the prevailing meteorological conditions over a pe-
13 riod of several decades, including the typical fre-
14 quency and duration of extreme storms, heat waves,
15 precipitation, droughts, cloudiness, winds, ocean
16 temperatures, and other events that a region is like-
17 ly to encounter.

18 (3) CLIMATE CHANGE.—The term “climate
19 change” refers to detectable changes in one or more
20 climate system components over multiple decades,
21 including—

22 (A) changes in the average temperature of
23 the atmosphere or ocean;

24 (B) changes in regional precipitation,
25 winds, and cloudiness; and

1 (C) changes in the severity or duration of
2 extreme weather, including droughts, floods,
3 and storms.

4 (4) CLIMATE MODELING.—The term “climate
5 modeling” refers to the mathematical representation
6 of the set of interdependent components of the cli-
7 mate system, including the atmosphere and ocean,
8 cryosphere, ecology, land use, natural greenhouse
9 gas emissions, and anthropogenic greenhouse emis-
10 sions.

11 (5) FRAGILITY.—The term “fragility” refers to
12 a condition that results from a dysfunctional rela-
13 tionship between state and society and the extent to
14 which that relationship fails to produce policy out-
15 comes that are considered effective or legitimate.

16 (6) GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY.—The term
17 “global health security”—

18 (A) refers to activities required, both
19 proactive and reactive, to minimize vulnerability
20 to acute public health events that endanger the
21 collective health of populations living across
22 geographical regions and international bound-
23 aries; and

24 (B) includes the efforts of the Global
25 Health Security Agenda to establish capacity to

1 prevent, detect, and respond to disease threats,
2 whether naturally occurring, deliberate, or acci-
3 dental.

4 (7) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term
5 “intelligence community” has the meaning given to
6 that term in section 3(4) of the National Security
7 Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

8 (8) NATIONAL SECURITY.—The term “National
9 security” refers to the protection of the Nation and
10 its people and interests.

11 (9) NEAR-, MID-, AND LONG-TERM.—The term
12 “near-, mid-, and long-term” means current to 10
13 years, 10 to 30 years, and more than 30 years, re-
14 spectively.

15 (10) RESILIENCE.—The term “resilience” re-
16 fers to the ability—

17 (A) to anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to
18 changing conditions; and

19 (B) to withstand, respond to, and recover
20 rapidly from disruptions.

21 (11) WORKING GROUP.—The term “Working
22 Group” means the Climate and National Security
23 Working Group established pursuant to section 3(a).

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