

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7220

To require the Secretary of State to publish a quarterly assessment regarding the Paris Agreement, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 6, 2018

Mr. McEACHIN (for himself and Mr. SCHNEIDER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To require the Secretary of State to publish a quarterly assessment regarding 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 “Produce All Relevant
5 Information to Safeguard Climate Act” or the “PARIS
6 Climate Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

8 It is the sense of Congress that—

9 (1) the policy of the United States should re-
10 flect and respond to the findings of the Fourth Na-

1 tional Climate Assessment, which states that “the
2 warming trend observed over the past century can
3 only be explained by the effects that human activi-
4 ties, especially emissions of greenhouse gases, have
5 had on the climate”, that “the evidence of human-
6 caused climate change is overwhelming”, that “cli-
7 mate-related threats to Americans’ physical, social,
8 and economic well-being are rising”, and that “with-
9 out substantial and sustained reductions in global
10 greenhouse gas emissions . . . annual losses in some
11 economic sectors are projected to reach hundreds of
12 billions of dollars by the end of the century”, in
13 some scenarios reducing gross domestic product by
14 as much as 10 percent;

15 (2) the President and Congress, in formulating
16 a policy response to the findings of the National Cli-
17 mate Assessment, should fully address all of the
18 threats contemplated in such Assessment, including
19 the increasing frequency of heat waves, floods,
20 wildfires, and other extreme weather events, increas-
21 ing scarcity of water, expanded territory for certain
22 infectious diseases, and diminishing air quality, and
23 should be mindful of low-income communities, com-
24 munities of color, or other vulnerable populations

1 that are disproportionately impacted by climate
2 change; and

3 (3) in order to best minimize or prevent the
4 harms of which the National Climate Assessment
5 warns, the Federal Government must join with other
6 governments in a concerted global effort to swiftly
7 curtail greenhouse gas and meet the goals estab-
8 lished by the Paris Agreement.

9 **SEC. 3. QUARTERLY ASSESSMENTS REGARDING THE PARIS**
10 **AGREEMENT.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the
12 date of the enactment of this Act and quarterly thereafter,
13 the Secretary of State shall publish on a publicly available
14 website of the Department of State and submit to the ap-
15 propriate congressional committees an assessment that ad-
16 dresses each of the following matters regarding the Paris
17 Agreement:

18 (1) How many parties to the Paris Agreement
19 have formally indicated an intent to withdraw from
20 such Agreement.

21 (2) Whether the Department has a reasonable
22 expectation that any of the parties referred to in
23 paragraph (1) may pursue withdrawal from the
24 Paris Agreement in the next year, and if so, an iden-

1 tification of such parties and the motives for such
2 withdrawal.

3 (3) Whether the United States has established
4 specific terms for re-engagement with the Paris
5 Agreement, per stated Administration policy at the
6 United Nations (C.N.464.2017.TREATIES–
7 XXVII.7.d) on August 4, 2017.

8 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
10 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
11 mittees” means—

12 (A) in the House of Representatives—

13 (i) the Committee on Foreign Affairs;

14 (ii) the Committee on Armed Services;

15 (iii) the Committee on Natural Re-
16 sources;

17 (iv) the Committee on Science, Space,
18 and Technology; and

19 (v) the Committee on Energy and
20 Commerce; and

21 (B) in the Senate—

22 (i) the Committee on Foreign Rela-
23 tions;

24 (ii) the Committee on Armed Services;

1 (iii) the Committee on the Environ-
2 ment and Public Works;

3 (iv) the Committee on Health, Edu-
4 cation, Labor, and Pensions; and

5 (v) the Committee on Energy and
6 Natural Resources.

7 (2) PARIS AGREEMENT.—The term “Paris
8 Agreement” means the United Nations Framework
9 Convention on Climate Change’s 21st Conference of
10 Parties in Paris, France, adopted December 12,
11 2015.

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