

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 9, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. FLORES OF TEXAS

Page 6, line 11, strike “percent.” and insert “percent; the United States is leading the world in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and in 2017, U.S. carbon emissions were the lowest they have been since 1992 thanks to innovation and technological development.”.

At the end of the bill, add the following:

1 SEC. 6. FINDINGS.

2 The House of Representatives finds the following:

3 (1) The October 2018 report entitled “Special
4 Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C” by the Inter-
5 governmental Panel on Climate Change and the No-
6 vember 2018 Fourth National Climate Assessment
7 report found that—

8 (A) human activity is the dominant cause
9 of observed climate change over the past cen-
10 tury;

11 (B) a changing climate is causing sea lev-
12 els to rise and an increase in wildfires, severe
13 storms, droughts, and other extreme weather

1 events that threaten human life, healthy com-
2 munities, and critical infrastructure;

3 (C) global warming at or above 2 degrees
4 Celsius beyond preindustrialized levels will
5 cause—

6 (i) mass migration from the regions
7 most affected by climate change;

8 (ii) more than \$500,000,000,000 in
9 lost annual economic output in the United
10 States by the year 2100;

11 (iii) wildfires that, by 2050, will annu-
12 ally burn at least twice as much forest
13 area in the western United States than
14 was typically burned by wildfires in the
15 years preceding 2019;

16 (iv) a loss of more than 99 percent of
17 all coral reefs on Earth;

18 (v) more than 350,000,000 more peo-
19 ple to be exposed globally to deadly heat
20 stress by 2050; and

21 (vi) a risk of damage to
22 \$1,000,000,000,000 of public infrastruc-
23 ture and coastal real estate in the United
24 States; and

1 (D) global temperatures must be kept
2 below 1.5 degrees Celsius above
3 preindustrialized levels to avoid the most severe
4 impacts of a changing climate, which will re-
5 quire—

6 (i) global reductions in greenhouse gas
7 emissions from human sources of 40 to 60
8 percent from 2010 levels by 2030; and

9 (ii) net-zero global emissions by 2050.

10 (2) Because the United States has historically
11 been responsible for a disproportionate amount of
12 greenhouse gas emissions, having emitted 20 percent
13 of global greenhouse gas emissions through 2014,
14 and has a high technological capacity, the United
15 States must take a leading role in reducing emis-
16 sions through economic transformation.

17 (3) The United States is currently experiencing
18 several related crises, with—

19 (A) life expectancy declining while basic
20 needs, such as clean air, clean water, healthy
21 food, and adequate health care, housing, trans-
22 portation, and education, are inaccessible to a
23 significant portion of the United States popu-
24 lation;

1 (B) a 4-decade trend of wage stagnation,
2 deindustrialization, and antilabor policies that
3 has led to—

4 (i) hourly wages overall stagnating
5 since the 1970s despite increased worker
6 productivity;

7 (ii) the third-worst level of socio-
8 economic mobility in the developed world
9 before the Great Recession;

10 (iii) the erosion of the earning and
11 bargaining power of workers in the United
12 States; and

13 (iv) inadequate resources for public
14 sector workers to confront the challenges
15 of climate change at local, State, and Fed-
16 eral levels; and

17 (C) the greatest income inequality since
18 the 1920s, with—

19 (i) the top 1 percent of earners accru-
20 ing 91 percent of gains in the first few
21 years of economic recovery after the Great
22 Recession;

23 (ii) a large racial wealth divide
24 amounting to a difference of 20 times

1 more wealth between the average white
2 family and the average black family; and

3 (iii) a gender earnings gap that re-
4 sults in women earning approximately 80
5 percent as much as men, at the median.

6 (4) Climate change, pollution, and environ-
7 mental destruction have exacerbated systemic racial,
8 regional, social, environmental, and economic injus-
9 tices (referred to in this section as “systemic injus-
10 tices”) by disproportionately affecting indigenous
11 peoples, communities of color, migrant communities,
12 deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural
13 communities, the poor, low-income workers, women,
14 the elderly, the unhoused, people with disabilities,
15 and youth (referred to in this section as “frontline
16 and vulnerable communities”).

17 (5) Climate change constitutes a direct threat
18 to the national security of the United States—

19 (A) by impacting the economic, environ-
20 mental, and social stability of countries and
21 communities around the world; and

22 (B) by acting as a threat multiplier.

23 (6) The Federal Government-led mobilizations
24 during World War II and the New Deal created the
25 greatest middle class that the United States has ever

1 seen, but many members of frontline and vulnerable
2 communities were excluded from many of the eco-
3 nomic and societal benefits of those mobilizations.

4 (7) A new national, social, industrial, and eco-
5 nomic mobilization on a scale not seen since World
6 War II and the New Deal era is a historic oppor-
7 tunity—

8 (A) to create millions of good, high-wage
9 jobs in the United States;

10 (B) to provide unprecedented levels of
11 prosperity and economic security for all people
12 of the United States; and

13 (C) to counteract systemic injustices.

14 **SEC. 7. SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

15 It is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

16 (1) it is the duty of the Federal Government to
17 create a Green New Deal—

18 (A) to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas
19 emissions through a fair and just transition for
20 all communities and workers;

21 (B) to create millions of good, high-wage
22 jobs and ensure prosperity and economic secu-
23 rity for all people of the United States;

1 (C) to invest in the infrastructure and in-
2 dustry of the United States to sustainably meet
3 the challenges of the 21st century;

4 (D) to secure for all people of the United
5 States for generations to come—

6 (i) clean air and water;

7 (ii) climate and community resiliency;

8 (iii) healthy food;

9 (iv) access to nature; and

10 (v) a sustainable environment; and

11 (E) to promote justice and equity by stop-
12 ping current, preventing future, and repairing
13 historic oppression of indigenous peoples, com-
14 munities of color, migrant communities,
15 deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural
16 communities, the poor, low-income workers,
17 women, the elderly, the unhoused, people with
18 disabilities, and youth (referred to in this sec-
19 tion as “frontline and vulnerable commu-
20 nities”);

21 (2) the goals described in subparagraphs (A)
22 through (E) of paragraph (1) (referred to in this
23 section as the “Green New Deal goals”) should be
24 accomplished through a 10-year national mobiliza-
25 tion (referred to in this section as the “Green New

1 Deal mobilization”) that will require the following
2 goals and projects—

3 (A) building resiliency against climate
4 change-related disasters, such as extreme
5 weather, including by leveraging funding and
6 providing investments for community-defined
7 projects and strategies;

8 (B) repairing and upgrading the infra-
9 structure in the United States, including—

10 (i) by eliminating pollution and green-
11 house gas emissions as much as techno-
12 logically feasible;

13 (ii) by guaranteeing universal access
14 to clean water;

15 (iii) by reducing the risks posed by cli-
16 mate impacts; and

17 (iv) by ensuring that any infrastruc-
18 ture bill considered by Congress addresses
19 climate change;

20 (C) meeting 100 percent of the power de-
21 mand in the United States through clean, re-
22 newable, and zero-emission energy sources, in-
23 cluding—

24 (i) by dramatically expanding and up-
25 grading renewable power sources; and

1 (ii) by deploying new capacity;

2 (D) building or upgrading to energy-effi-
3 cient, distributed, and “smart” power grids,
4 and ensuring affordable access to electricity;

5 (E) upgrading all existing buildings in the
6 United States and building new buildings to
7 achieve maximum energy efficiency, water effi-
8 ciency, safety, affordability, comfort, and dura-
9 bility, including through electrification;

10 (F) spurring massive growth in clean man-
11 ufacturing in the United States and removing
12 pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from
13 manufacturing and industry as much as is tech-
14 nologically feasible, including by expanding re-
15 newable energy manufacturing and investing in
16 existing manufacturing and industry;

17 (G) working collaboratively with farmers
18 and ranchers in the United States to remove
19 pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from
20 the agricultural sector as much as is techno-
21 logically feasible, including—

22 (i) by supporting family farming;

23 (ii) by investing in sustainable farm-
24 ing and land use practices that increase
25 soil health; and

1 (iii) by building a more sustainable
2 food system that ensures universal access
3 to healthy food;

4 (H) overhauling transportation systems in
5 the United States to remove pollution and
6 greenhouse gas emissions from the transpor-
7 tation sector as much as is technologically fea-
8 sible, including through investment in—

9 (i) zero-emission vehicle infrastructure
10 and manufacturing;

11 (ii) clean, affordable, and accessible
12 public transit; and

13 (iii) high-speed rail;

14 (I) mitigating and managing the long-term
15 adverse health, economic, and other effects of
16 pollution and climate change, including by pro-
17 viding funding for community-defined projects
18 and strategies;

19 (J) removing greenhouse gases from the
20 atmosphere and reducing pollution by restoring
21 natural ecosystems through proven low-tech so-
22 lutions that increase soil carbon storage, such
23 as land preservation and afforestation;

24 (K) restoring and protecting threatened,
25 endangered, and fragile ecosystems through lo-

1 cally appropriate and science-based projects
2 that enhance biodiversity and support climate
3 resiliency;

4 (L) cleaning up existing hazardous waste
5 and abandoned sites, ensuring economic devel-
6 opment and sustainability on those sites;

7 (M) identifying other emission and pollu-
8 tion sources and creating solutions to remove
9 them; and

10 (N) promoting the international exchange
11 of technology, expertise, products, funding, and
12 services, with the aim of making the United
13 States the international leader on climate ac-
14 tion, and to help other countries achieve a
15 Green New Deal;

16 (3) a Green New Deal must be developed
17 through transparent and inclusive consultation, col-
18 laboration, and partnership with frontline and vul-
19 nerable communities, labor unions, worker coopera-
20 tives, civil society groups, academia, and businesses;
21 and

22 (4) to achieve the Green New Deal goals and
23 mobilization, a Green New Deal will require the fol-
24 lowing goals and projects—

1 (A) providing and leveraging, in a way that
2 ensures that the public receives appropriate
3 ownership stakes and returns on investment,
4 adequate capital (including through community
5 grants, public banks, and other public financ-
6 ing), technical expertise, supporting policies,
7 and other forms of assistance to communities,
8 organizations, Federal, State, and local govern-
9 ment agencies, and businesses working on the
10 Green New Deal mobilization;

11 (B) ensuring that the Federal Government
12 takes into account the complete environmental
13 and social costs and impacts of emissions
14 through—

15 (i) existing laws;

16 (ii) new policies and programs; and

17 (iii) ensuring that frontline and vul-
18 nerable communities shall not be adversely
19 affected;

20 (C) providing resources, training, and
21 high-quality education, including higher edu-
22 cation, to all people of the United States, with
23 a focus on frontline and vulnerable commu-
24 nities, so that all people of the United States

1 may be full and equal participants in the Green
2 New Deal mobilization;

3 (D) making public investments in the re-
4 search and development of new clean and re-
5 newable energy technologies and industries;

6 (E) directing investments to spur economic
7 development, deepen and diversify industry and
8 business in local and regional economies, and
9 build wealth and community ownership, while
10 prioritizing high-quality job creation and eco-
11 nomic, social, and environmental benefits in
12 frontline and vulnerable communities, and
13 deindustrialized communities, that may other-
14 wise struggle with the transition away from
15 greenhouse gas intensive industries;

16 (F) ensuring the use of democratic and
17 participatory processes that are inclusive of and
18 led by frontline and vulnerable communities and
19 workers to plan, implement, and administer the
20 Green New Deal mobilization at the local level;

21 (G) ensuring that the Green New Deal mo-
22 bilization creates high-quality union jobs that
23 pay prevailing wages, hires local workers, offers
24 training and advancement opportunities, and

1 guarantees wage and benefit parity for workers
2 affected by the transition;

3 (H) guaranteeing a job with a family-sus-
4 taining wage, adequate family and medical
5 leave, paid vacations, and retirement security to
6 all people of the United States;

7 (I) strengthening and protecting the right
8 of all workers to organize, unionize, and collec-
9 tively bargain free of coercion, intimidation, and
10 harassment;

11 (J) strengthening and enforcing labor,
12 workplace health and safety, antidiscrimination,
13 and wage and hour standards across all employ-
14 ers, industries, and sectors;

15 (K) enacting and enforcing trade rules,
16 procurement standards, and border adjustments
17 with strong labor and environmental protec-
18 tions—

19 (i) to stop the transfer of jobs and
20 pollution overseas; and

21 (ii) to grow domestic manufacturing
22 in the United States;

23 (L) ensuring that public lands, waters, and
24 oceans are protected and that eminent domain
25 is not abused;

1 (M) obtaining the free, prior, and informed
2 consent of indigenous peoples for all decisions
3 that affect indigenous peoples and their tradi-
4 tional territories, honoring all treaties and
5 agreements with indigenous peoples, and pro-
6 tecting and enforcing the sovereignty and land
7 rights of indigenous peoples;

8 (N) ensuring a commercial environment
9 where every businessperson is free from unfair
10 competition and domination by domestic or
11 international monopolies; and

12 (O) providing all people of the United
13 States with—

- 14 (i) high-quality health care;
- 15 (ii) affordable, safe, and adequate
16 housing;
- 17 (iii) economic security; and
- 18 (iv) clean water, clean air, healthy and
19 affordable food, and access to nature.

