AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 9
OFFERED BY MR. MCCAUL OF TEXAS

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

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

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Despite claims by the proponents of the Paris Agreement of its historic nature, the 2019 Worldwide Threat Assessment of the United States Intelligence Community states “Global environmental and ecological degradation, as well as climate change, are likely to fuel competition for resources, economic distress, and social discontent through 2019 and beyond.”.

(2) As a party to the Paris Agreement, United States Government actions taken to address the challenge of climate change pursuant to such agreement should enjoy broad, bipartisan support, includ-
ing policies that promote private sector-led innovation and technological advancement.

(3) Whether the United States remains a party to the Paris Agreement or not, climate change requires an international effort, which the United States should lead as a role model for other countries.

(4) The United States Energy Information Administration estimates that United States energy-related carbon dioxide emissions declined by 14 percent from 2005 to 2017, starting well before the United States became a party to the Paris Agreement. This impressive decline brought greenhouse gas emissions to their lowest levels since 1992.

(5) In 2016, President Obama signed an instrument of acceptance of the Paris Agreement on behalf of the United States without submitting the agreement to the Senate for its advice and consent to ratification. When asked at a congressional hearing on April 2, 2019, if anyone disagreed that President Obama should have submitted the Paris Agreement to the Senate for ratification, none of the four witnesses expressed any disagreement.

(6) According to an analysis by the World Resources Institute of the top 100 greenhouse gas
emitters, the United States is one of just twelve countries to adopt the Paris Agreement through unilat-
eral action by the President, without any role for the legislature.

(7) Pursuant to the Paris Agreement, in 2016 the United States communicated its nationally deter-
mined contribution (NDC) to achieve an economy-
wide target of reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 26 to 28 percent below its 2005 level in 2025 and to make best efforts to reduce its emissions by 28 percent. China, the world’s largest emitter of green-
house gases, plans to continue to increase emissions through 2030, according to its NDC.

(8) Congress had no formal input on the NDC submitted by the United States and President Obama did not provide any economic justification or cost-benefit analysis to rationalize the greenhouse gas reduction targets pledged by the United States.

(9) A report prepared by NERA Economic Con-
sulting in 2017 found that meeting the commitments President Obama made as part of the Paris Agree-
ment could cost United States gross domestic prod-
uct $250 billion and 2.7 million jobs by 2025.

(10) On June 1, 2017, President Trump an-
ounced his intent to withdraw the United States
from the agreement “but begin negotiations to reen-
ter either the Paris Accord or a really entirely new
transaction on terms that are fair to the United
States, its businesses, its workers, its people, its tax-
payers”.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION WITH RESPECT TO

THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
sion of law, the President shall notify Congress not less
than 30 days prior to submitting any nationally deter-
mined contribution (NDC) on behalf of the United States
pursuant to Article 4 of the Paris Agreement.

(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The notification
required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A detailed economic justification of the
NDC.

(2) A cost-benefit analysis of the NDC.

(3) A description of how the NDC will promote
availability of diversified energy supplies and a well-
functioning global market for energy resources, tech-
nologies, and expertise for the benefit of the United
States and United States allies and trading part-
ners.
(4) A description of how the NDC will support United States international efforts to alleviate energy poverty.

(5) A description of how the NDC will impact United States global economic competitiveness.

(6) A description of how the NDC will impact United States national security interests.

(c) CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW.—Any NDC shall be treated as a rule for the purposes of chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Congressional Review Act”).

SEC. 4. PARIS AGREEMENT DEFINED.

In this Act, the term “Paris Agreement” means the decision by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change’s 21st Conference of Parties in Paris, France, adopted December 12, 2015.