

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 104

Recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to implement an agenda to Transform, Heal, and Renew by Investing in a Vibrant Economy (“THRIVE”).

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 5, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL (for herself, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. McEACHIN, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Ms. DELAURO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, Natural Resources, and Agriculture, 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

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to implement an agenda to Transform, Heal, and Renew by Investing in a Vibrant Economy (“THRIVE”).

Whereas families and communities throughout the United States share similar hopes and dreams of a good life that is free from worry about meeting basic needs, with reliable and fulfilling work, a dignified and healthy standard of living, and the ability to enjoy time with loved ones;

Whereas the United States faces the stress of multiple, overlapping crises—old and new—that prevent the achievement of these fundamental human rights and needs, in which the COVID–19 pandemic has killed over 400,000 United States residents; more than 10,000,000 United States workers remain unemployed; rising economic inequality has made working families vulnerable; tens of millions of individuals do not get the health care they need; and intensifying climate change increases the threats to our health, economy, and livelihoods;

Whereas these health, economic, and climate crises have magnified centuries-old injustices, causing high rates of death and hardship among Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities due to long-standing systemic racism—a fact spotlighted by an emerging, multiracial movement to end violence against Black people;

Whereas these crises are causing the inequitable workloads of women—particularly women of color—to grow, especially as women of color overwhelmingly make up the essential workforce, bearing the weight of the increased care needs of children, the elderly, and the sick;

Whereas, even before the COVID–19 crisis, many rural communities and independent family farmers suffered from poverty, declining economic opportunity, and alarming rates of farm bankruptcy, including loss of land from Black farmers and the exploitation of Black, Brown, and Indigenous farmers caused by predatory and racist public, private, and governmental institutions and policies;

Whereas the root of our interlocking economic and environmental crises is society’s historical willingness to treat some communities and workers as disposable;

Whereas it is necessary to counteract systemic injustice and value the dignity of all individuals in order to address unemployment, pandemics, or climate change and ensure the survival of the Nation and the planet;

Whereas the choices made in response to these crises will shape the United States direction for the 21st century and beyond, offering an opportunity to reshape our society to provide a good life for each of us and for our children and grandchildren; and

Whereas the United States has the means to support fulfilling livelihoods for millions of people—Black, Indigenous, Brown, Latinx, Asian/Pacific Islander, White, immigrant, urban and rural, old and young, of many faiths, genders, abilities, and talents—while working to heal harms, protect communities, and invest in a future that fosters justice, not crisis: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) it is the duty of the Federal Government to
4 respond to the crises of racial injustice, mass unem-
5 ployment, a pandemic, and climate change with a
6 bold and holistic national mobilization, an Agenda to
7 Transform, Heal, and Renew by Investing in a Vi-
8 brant Economy (“THRIVE”) (referred to in this re-
9 solving clause as the “Agenda”), to build a society
10 that enables—

11 (A) greater racial, economic, and gender
12 justice;

1 (B) dignified work;

2 (C) healthy communities; and

3 (D) a stable climate; and

4 (2) such Agenda shall be assessed upon its abil-
5 ity to uphold its foundational pillars, including—

6 (A) creating millions of good, safe jobs
7 with access to unions by—

8 (i) investing in projects including—

9 (I) upgrading our broken infra-
10 structure to expand access to clean
11 and affordable energy, transportation,
12 high-speed broadband, and water, par-
13 ticularly for public systems;

14 (II) modernizing and retrofitting
15 millions of homes, schools, offices, and
16 industrial buildings to cut pollution
17 and costs;

18 (III) investing in public health
19 and care work, including by increasing
20 jobs, protections, wages, and benefits
21 for the historically unpaid and under-
22 valued work of caring for children, the
23 elderly, and the sick;

24 (IV) protecting and restoring
25 wetlands, forests, and public lands,

1 and cleaning up pollution in our com-
2 munities;

3 (V) creating opportunities for
4 family farmers and rural communities,
5 including by untangling the hyper-
6 consolidated food supply chain, bol-
7 stering regenerative agriculture, and
8 investing in local and regional food
9 systems that support farmers, agricul-
10 tural workers, healthy soil, and cli-
11 mate resilience; and

12 (VI) developing and transforming
13 the industrial base of the United
14 States, while creating high-skill, high-
15 wage manufacturing jobs across the
16 country, including by expanding man-
17 ufacturing of clean technologies, re-
18 ducing industrial pollution, and
19 prioritizing clean, domestic manufac-
20 turing for the aforementioned invest-
21 ments;

22 (ii) prioritizing the mobilization of di-
23 rect public investments, while excluding
24 false solutions that—

25 (I) increase inequality;

1 (II) privatize public lands, water,
2 or nature;

3 (III) violate human rights;

4 (IV) expedite the destruction of
5 ecosystems; or

6 (V) decrease union density or
7 membership;

8 (iii) driving investment toward real
9 full employment, where every individual
10 who wishes to work has a viable pathway
11 to a meaningful and dignified job with the
12 right to form a union, including by estab-
13 lishing new public employment programs,
14 as necessary; and

15 (iv) subjecting each job created under
16 this Agenda to high-road labor standards
17 that—

18 (I) require family-sustaining
19 wages and benefits, including child-
20 care support;

21 (II) ensure safe workplaces;

22 (III) protect the rights of work-
23 ers to organize; and

24 (IV) prioritize the hiring of local
25 workers to ensure wages stay within

1 communities to stimulate economic ac-
2 tivity;

3 (B) building the power of workers to fight
4 inequality by—

5 (i) reversing the corporate erosion of
6 workers' organizing rights and bargaining
7 power so that millions of new clean energy
8 jobs, as well as millions of existing low-
9 wage jobs across the economy, become the
10 family-supporting union jobs that everyone
11 deserves, including by—

12 (I) passing the bipartisan Pro-
13 tecting the Right to Organize Act;

14 (II) repealing the ban on sec-
15 ondary boycotts;

16 (III) requiring employer neu-
17 trality with regard to union orga-
18 nizing;

19 (IV) ensuring that “franchising”
20 and other corporate structures may
21 not be used to hinder collective bar-
22 gaining on a company-wide, regional,
23 or national basis;

1 (V) advancing sectoral bar-
2 gaining in certain economic sectors;
3 and

4 (VI) ensuring that no workers
5 are misclassified as “independent con-
6 tractors;”

7 (ii) expanding union representation
8 for all workers; and

9 (iii) creating ladders of opportunity,
10 particularly for women and people of color,
11 to access registered apprenticeship and
12 pre-apprenticeship programs in commu-
13 nities of all sizes across the country;

14 (C) investing in Black, Brown, and Indige-
15 nous communities to build power and counter-
16 act racial and gender injustice by—

17 (i) directing at least 40 percent of in-
18 vestments to communities that have been
19 excluded, oppressed, and harmed by racist
20 and unjust practices, including—

21 (I) communities of color;

22 (II) low-income communities;

23 (III) deindustrialized commu-
24 nities; and

1 (IV) communities facing environ-
2 mental injustice;

3 (ii) ensuring that investments in these
4 communities enable—

5 (I) the creation of good jobs with
6 family-sustaining wages;

7 (II) economic ownership opportu-
8 nities that close the racial wealth gap;

9 (III) pollution reduction;

10 (IV) climate resilience;

11 (V) small business support;

12 (VI) economic opportunities for
13 independent family farmers and
14 ranchers; and

15 (VII) the expansion of public
16 services;

17 (iii) ensuring that affected commu-
18 nities have the power to democratically
19 plan, implement, and administer these
20 projects;

21 (iv) prioritizing local and equitable
22 hiring and contracting that creates oppor-
23 tunities for—

24 (I) people of color;

1 (II) immigrants, regardless of
2 immigration status;

3 (III) formerly incarcerated indi-
4 viduals;

5 (IV) women;

6 (V) LGBTQIAP+ individuals;

7 (VI) disabled and chronically ill
8 individuals; and

9 (VII) marginalized communities;
10 and

11 (v) providing access to quality work-
12 force training, including through registered
13 apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships to
14 ensure real pathways to good careers, in-
15 cluding those that have historically been
16 inaccessible;

17 (D) strengthening and healing the nation-
18 to-nation relationship with sovereign Native Na-
19 tions, including by—

20 (i) making systemic changes in Fed-
21 eral policies to honor the environmental
22 and social trust responsibilities to Native
23 Nations and their Peoples, which are es-
24 sential to tackling society's economic, envi-
25 ronmental, and health crises;

1 (ii) strengthening Tribal sovereignty
2 and enforcing Indian treaty rights by mov-
3 ing towards greater recognition and sup-
4 port of the inherent self-governance and
5 sovereignty of these nations and their
6 members; and

7 (iii) promulgating specific initiatives
8 that reflect the nuanced relationships be-
9 tween the Native Nations, including—

10 (I) the confirmation by Congress
11 that Tribal nations can exercise their
12 full and inherent civil regulatory and
13 adjudicatory authority over their own
14 citizens, lands, and resources, and
15 over activities within their Tribal
16 lands;

17 (II) the codification of Free,
18 Prior, and Informed Consent as it re-
19 lates to Tribal consultation; and

20 (III) the implementation of the
21 United Nations Declaration on the
22 Rights of Indigenous Peoples, without
23 qualification;

24 (E) combating environmental injustice and
25 ensuring healthy lives for all, including by—

- 1 (i) curtailing air, water, and land pol-
2 lution from all sources;
- 3 (ii) removing health hazards from
4 communities;
- 5 (iii) replacing lead pipes to ensure
6 clean water is available to all;
- 7 (iv) remediating the cumulative health
8 and environmental impacts of toxic pollu-
9 tion and climate change;
- 10 (v) ensuring that affected commu-
11 nities have equitable access to public
12 health resources that have been system-
13 ically denied, which includes—
- 14 (I) upgrading unhealthy and
15 overcrowded homes, public schools,
16 and public hospitals;
- 17 (II) ensuring access to healthy
18 food, mental health support, and re-
19 storative justice; and
- 20 (III) investing in universal
21 childcare, care for individuals with
22 disabilities, senior care, and a robust
23 care workforce; and
- 24 (vi) focusing these initiatives in Black,
25 Brown, and Indigenous communities that

1 have endured disproportionately high death
2 rates from COVID–19 due to higher expo-
3 sure to air pollution and other cumulative
4 health hazards as a result of decades of en-
5 vironmental racism;

6 (F) averting climate and environmental ca-
7 tastrophe, including by—

8 (i) contributing to a livable climate
9 and environment for today and for future
10 generations, including by—

11 (I) staying below 1.5 degrees Cel-
12 sius of global warming;

13 (II) building climate resilience to
14 keep communities safe; and

15 (III) ensuring sustainable re-
16 source use;

17 (ii) deploying investments and stand-
18 ards in the electricity, transportation,
19 buildings, manufacturing, lands, and agri-
20 cultural sectors to spur the largest expan-
21 sion in history of clean, renewable energy,
22 emissions reductions, climate resilience,
23 and sustainable resource use;

24 (iii) transforming the power sector in
25 order to move the country, by not later

1 than 2035, to carbon pollution-free elec-
2 tricity that passes an environmental justice
3 screen to prevent concentrating pollution
4 in Black, Brown, and Indigenous commu-
5 nities;

6 (iv) prioritizing materials and parts
7 that meet high labor, environmental, and
8 human rights standards throughout the
9 supply chain;

10 (v) supporting sustainable, domestic
11 production of healthy, nutritious food that
12 pays independent farmers and ranchers a
13 fair price for their land stewardship; and

14 (vi) ensuring that funding under this
15 Agenda goes to workers and communities
16 affected by the economic and environ-
17 mental crises, not to corporate fossil fuel
18 polluters;

19 (G) ensuring fairness for workers and com-
20 munities affected by economic transitions by—

21 (i) guaranteeing that workers and
22 communities in industries and regions in
23 economic transition due to COVID–19, cli-
24 mate change, and other economic shocks
25 receive—

- 1 (I) stable wages and benefits, in-
- 2 cluding full pension and health care;
- 3 (II) early retirement offerings;
- 4 (III) crisis and trauma support;
- 5 and
- 6 (IV) equitable job placement; and
- 7 (ii) investing in transitioning areas to
- 8 support—
- 9 (I) economic diversification;
- 10 (II) high quality job creation;
- 11 (III) community reinvestment;
- 12 (IV) retooling and conversion;
- 13 (V) reclamation and remediation
- 14 of closed and abandoned facilities and
- 15 sites;
- 16 (VI) child and adult care infra-
- 17 structure; and
- 18 (VII) funding to shore up budget
- 19 shortfalls in local and State govern-
- 20 ments; and
- 21 (H) reinvesting in public sector institutions
- 22 that enable workers and communities to thrive
- 23 by—
- 24 (i) rebuilding vital public services and
- 25 strengthening social infrastructure in cities

1 and counties, health care systems, schools,
2 the postal service, and other services;

3 (ii) investing in equitable public edu-
4 cation opportunities, including career and
5 technical education pathways that prepare
6 youth—especially girls; Black, Brown, and
7 Indigenous students; students with disabil-
8 ities; students from low-income families;
9 and other students from marginalized
10 groups—for high-quality jobs of the future,
11 and state of the art technology and
12 schools, so that from the beginning stu-
13 dents are prepared to transform society
14 and preserve democracy;

15 (iii) investing in the workers who pro-
16 vide care to children, the elderly, and com-
17 munities burdened by neglect;

18 (iv) creating new public institutions,
19 inspired by and improving upon New Deal-
20 era institutions, to ensure universal access
21 to critical resources and to strategically
22 and coherently mobilize and channel in-
23 vestments, in line with the above priorities,
24 at the scale and pace that these times re-
25 quire; and

1 (v) coupling this institutional renewal
2 with democratic governance and account-
3 ability to correct the systemic misallocation
4 of resources and representation that pre-
5 vents families and communities from meet-
6 ing fundamental human needs and pur-
7 suing fulfilling lives.

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