

116TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

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. Gallego, 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,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

- 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
- Working Group;

- 1 (2) develop recommendations for requirements
 2 for climate and social science data and intelligence
 3 analyses, as appropriate, that support national secu4 rity interests;
 - (3) catalog climate science data, intelligence analyses, and other products and programs that support or should be considered in the development of national security doctrine, policy, and plans, including—
 - (A) climate and social science data repositories and analytical platforms;
 - (B) climate modeling, simulation, and projection capabilities; and
 - (C) information-sharing tools and resources supporting climate risk analyses and assessments, such as the Climate Data Initiative, the Climate Resilience Toolkit, the Global Change Information System, and the National Climate Assessment;
 - (4) identify information and program gaps that limit consideration of climate change-related impacts in developing national security doctrine, policies, and plans and provide descriptions of these gaps to Federal science agencies and the United States intelligence community to inform future research require-

- 1 ments and priorities, including collection priorities 2 on climate data, models, simulations, and projec-3 tions:
 - (5) facilitate the production and exchange of climate data and information with relevant stake-holders, including the United States intelligence community, and private sector partners, as appropriate;
 - (6) produce, as appropriate, and make available science-informed intelligence assessments to agencies having responsibilities in the development of national security doctrine, policies, and plans in order to identify climate change-related impacts and prioritize actions related thereto;
 - (7) establish, by consensus, guidance for Working Group members on coordinating, sharing, and exchanging climate science data among the members, and with the National Science and Technology Council;
 - (8) provide a venue for enhancing the understanding of the links between climate change-related impacts and national security interests and discussing the opportunities for climate mitigation and adaptation activities to address national security 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;
 - (10) recommend research guidelines, in coordination with the National Science and Technology Council, concerning the Federal Government's ability to detect climate intervention activities;
 - (11) develop, by consensus, guidance for Working Group members on building climate resilience in countries vulnerable to climate change-related impacts;
 - (12) take into account defined requirements and current capabilities described in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection to facilitate the consideration of climate change-related impacts into national security doctrine, policies, and plans;
 - (13) have classified and unclassified capabilities, as required and appropriate, to consolidate and make available climate change-related impact information, intelligence analyses, and assessments for access and use by Working Group member agencies;
 - (14) identify the most current information on regional, country, and geographic areas most vulnerable 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) Identifying, sustaining, and strengthening climate-related data repositories, tools, and modeling products that inform climate change-related impacts on national security.
 - (2) Identifying climate change-related risks to departments and agency missions, and risks that may be caused by departments and agency policies, programs, and actions concerning international development objectives, fragility, and regional stability.
 - (3) Pursuing departments and agency adaptation strategies and methods that address climate change-related impacts on national security and homeland defense.
 - (4) Identifying and implementing climate change-related information-sharing opportunities and arrangements through international development activities, military-to-military engagements, and government-to-government climate-related data exchanges.
 - (5) Identifying economic considerations arising from the impacts of climate change globally and the resulting specific impacts on national security, including macroeconomic analyses and data-sharing 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.
 - (7) Identifying climate change-related impacts on global water, food security, and nutrition and the resulting impacts on national security, and recommending actions to mitigate these impacts.
 - (8) Identifying climate change-related global health security concerns affecting humans, animals, and plants, and developing options to address them.
 - (9) Developing a department or agency-specific approach to address climate-related hazards and threats to national security.
 - (10) Determining and acting on climate changerelated threats to infrastructure at the asset, system, and regional level and acting to strengthen the safety, security, and resilience of infrastructure critical to national security.
 - (11) Incorporating climate change-related impact information and considerations into department and agency technical and executive education and training programs.

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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

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).