

A RESOLUTION

Urging the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to join the Climate Alliance in response to the United States' withdrawal from the Paris Agreement.

WHEREAS, The Paris Agreement united nations of the world to address climate change; and

WHEREAS, This historic Agreement, which was adopted in 2015, was a compromise of 195 countries, showing the growing concern of climate change; and

WHEREAS, The key goals of the Agreement were to keep global temperatures down and limit greenhouse gases emitted by human activity; and

WHEREAS, The Paris Agreement was the first step to providing a longer term plan for balancing greenhouse gas emissions, and

WHEREAS, On June 1, 2017, President Trump announced that the United States would withdraw from the Paris Agreement; and

WHEREAS, In response to the United States' withdrawal, the Climate Alliance was formed by the states of California, New York, and Washington; and

WHEREAS, Currently, ten additional states/territories, including Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and Puerto Rico have joined the Climate Alliance; and

WHEREAS, The states in the Climate Alliance agree to uphold the elements of the Paris Agreement on climate change; and

WHEREAS, Members of the Climate Alliance are committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions 26-28 percent from 2005 levels and meeting or exceeding the goals of the federal Clean Power Plan; and

WHEREAS, some of the largest businesses operating in the United States, including Apple, Facebook, Google, Microsoft, PG&E, and Unilever have urged President Trump to remain a signatory of the Paris Agreement citing its economic benefits; and

WHEREAS, More than 1, 200 local officials, businesses, and educational institutions have also stated that they will uphold the elements of the Paris Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Bill Peduto of Pittsburgh has come forward in support of upholding the agreement; and

WHEREAS, According to Mayor Peduto, "Pittsburgh is the example of why the Paris Agreement is good for economic development: such work is good for business too. We've rebuilt our economy on the future and our people, not the past"; and

WHEREAS, Climate change is a growing threat to our health, environment, economy, and future; and

WHEREAS, It is in the best interests of the Commonwealth to join the Alliance so that we can continue to move forward in addressing climate change and stimulating economic growth and job creation from energy efficiency and renewables; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to join the Climate Alliance in response to the United States' withdrawal from the Paris Agreement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to Governor Tom Wolf; President of the United States, Donald Trump; the presiding officers of each house of Congress; and each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.