



THE OFFICE OF SENATE MAJORITY WHIP
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SENATOR 33RD SENATE DISTRICT

SJR 2 (Gonzalez) Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty

SUMMARY

Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 2 will add California to the list of governments calling on the global community to develop a treaty to phase out the use of fossil fuels. Specifically, SJR 2 will request the Federal Government to participate in the treaty drafting process.

SJR 2 is a resolution with three primary pillars – first, a prohibition on future fossil fuel exploration, second a phase down of all existing fossil fuel production, and finally an equitable energy transition that promotes training and gainful opportunities for the workforce employed in fossil fuel production.

BACKGROUND/PROBLEM

The scientific consensus is clear that human activity is responsible for accelerating global climate change primarily through greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.¹ Fossil fuels are the largest contributor to climate change, accounting for 75% of all GHG emissions.²

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment report states that greatly reduced fossil fuel use will be fundamental to limiting warming, and furthermore warned that existing fossil fuel infrastructure is already sufficient to breach the 2015 Paris Agreement goal to limit global warming to 1.5°C.³ According to the United Nations Environmental Program Production Gap Report, the world is on track to produce

about 110% more fossil fuels by 2030 than what is needed to limit warming to 1.5°C and avert severe climate disruption.⁴ There is consensus across published studies that developing new oil and gas fields is incompatible with the 1.5°C target.⁵

Existing global climate treaties do not adequately address the need to phase out all fossil fuels to prevent the catastrophic health and environmental impacts of climate change. The Paris Climate Agreement does not include any mention of coal, oil, or gas, and contains no agreements between signatory nations to address this single largest contributor to climate change. Additionally, the recently developed Glasgow Climate Pact only includes a phasedown of coal, not all fossil fuels.

The Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty is modeled on the successful nuclear non-proliferation treaty in the 1960s.⁶

Internationally, there are also precedents for bans on fossil fuels, such as the moratorium in place for mining projects in Antarctica.⁷ The International Council on Mining and Metals has committed its members (including the World Coal Association) to neither explore nor mine in World Heritage Sites and to respect legally designated protected areas.⁸

¹<https://www.epa.gov/climate-indicators/greenhouse-gases>

²<https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/science/causes-effects-climate-change>

³<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg3/>

⁴<https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/governments-fossil-fuel-production-plans-dangerously-out-sync-paris>

⁵<https://www.iisd.org/publications/report/navigating-energy-transitions>

⁶ <https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2019.1636759>

⁷ <https://www.ats.aq/e/protocol.html>

⁸<https://www.icmm.com/en-gb/our-principles/position-statements/protected-areas>

SOLUTION

A growing number of governments and organizations, including the island nations of Tuvalu and Vanuatu, the World Health Organization, the European Parliament, the Vatican, the Hawai'i State Legislature, and the California cities of Hayward, Los Angeles, Richmond, Santa Ana, and Sebastopol have passed formal resolutions calling for national governments to negotiate a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.

This resolution calls upon the US Government, and the nations of the world, to negotiate a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty that ends our reliance on fossil fuels.

SUPPORT

[Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative](#) (sponsor)

[Indigenous Environmental Network](#) (sponsor)

[SAFE Cities](#) (sponsor)

[Stand.earth](#) (sponsor)

1000 Grandmothers for Future Generations

198 methods

350 Bay Area Action

350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley

350 Sacramento

350.org

Abibinsroma Foundation

Accelerate Neighborhood Climate Action

African Solution

Alliance For Just Money

Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments

Animals Are Sentient Beings, Inc.

Asian Pacific Environmental Network

Biofuelwatch

Breast Cancer Action

Businesses for a Livable Climate

California Kitchen

California Nurses for Environmental Health and Justice

Call to Action Colorado

CatholicNetwork US

Center for Biological Diversity

Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)

Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment

Central Valley Air Quality Coalition

Citizens' Climate Lobby Canada

CleanEarth4Kids.org

Climate Action Rhode Island-350

Climate Emergency Australia

Climate Hawks Vote

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ColorBrightonGreen

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Divest Oregon

Divest Parliament

Earth Guardians

EcoEquity

Elders Climate Action

Elders Climate Action Southern California

Environmental Investigation Agency

Environmental Justice Ministry Cedar Lane Unitarian

Universalist Church

Extinction Rebellion Peace

Fossil Free California

Fox Valley Citizens for Peace & Justice

Fridays For Future Windhoek

Gen-Z for Change

George Mason University Center for Climate Change

Communication

Global Exchange

Global Warming Mitigation Project

Global Witness

Grassroots Global Justice Alliance

Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance

Green America

GreenFaith

Greenpeace USA

Hindus for Human Rights

Hollywood Climate Summit

Honor the Earth

I-70 Citizens Advisory Group

Indivisible Ambassadors

Larimer Alliance for Health, Safety and Environment

Littleton Business Alliance

Mayfair Park Neighborhood Association Board

Media Alliance

Mental Health & Inclusion Ministries

Mind Eye World

MobilizeTO

Montebello Neighborhood Improvement Association

Mothers Out Front California

MoveOn.org Hoboken Resist

North American Climate, Conservation and Environment (NACCE)

North Range Concerned Citizens

Oil and Gas Action Network

PACAN

Pacific Environment
Parents For Future Global
Parents For Future Miami
Parliament of the World's Religions
Plastic Free Fridays
Power Shift Africa
Primavera Zur
Public Citizen
Rainforest Action Network
RapidShift Network
Rodzice dla Klimatu - Parents For Future Poland
San Francisco Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network
Save EPA (former employees)
SEE (Social Eco Education)
Small Business Alliance
SolidarityINFOService
Southwest Organization for Sustainability
Spirit of the Sun, Inc.
Stamp Out Poverty
Sunflower Alliance
Sustainable Mill Valley
System Change Not Climate Change
Talanoa Institute
Terra Advocati
The Climate Center
The Green House Connection Center
The Phoenix Group
Third Act Educators
THIS! Is What We Did
Unite North Metro Denver
Vote Earth Now
Wall of Women
We, The World Botswana Chapter
Western Slope Businesses for a Livable Climate
WhatNext?
Women's Earth and Climate Action Network (WECAN)
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
(WILPF)
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom US
(WILPF US)
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom,
Ghana
Womxn from the Mountain
Working for Racial Equity
YOUTH For Climate Turkey

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