

June 30, 2021

Dear Members of Congress,

The undersigned major scientific organizations write to express the evidence-based urgency of boldly addressing climate change and encourage you to act quickly.

Observations throughout the world make it clear climate change is occurring and rapidly intensifying. Rigorous scientific research concludes greenhouse gases (GHG) emitted by human activities are the primary driver. The basic physical science behind climate change is well understood and not the subject of serious scientific debate. There is strong evidence that ongoing climate change is having broad negative impacts on society, including the global economy, our shared environment and oceans, and human health. The severity of climate change impacts is likely to increase significantly in the coming decades.<sup>1</sup>

To reduce the risk of the most severe impacts of climate change, anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions must be substantially reduced. Additionally, it is imperative we invest heavily in adaptation and mitigation strategies to improve resilience, including substantial infrastructure upgrades. Rapid action is necessary to avoid potentially disastrous consequences for health, biodiversity, food security, water availability, and national security.

Leading with science will be critical to understanding and addressing the effects of climate change, and the entire scientific community will play a role in addressing this emergency. Robust support for climate research and forecasting, including the social sciences to address human and ecological impacts, will be necessary to meet this global challenge.

The science makes it clear that bold action is needed to address the climate crisis. The undersigned scientific community is not only up to the challenge, but also stands ready to assist you with solutions.

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<sup>1</sup> The conclusions in this and the preceding paragraph reflect the scientific consensus represented by, for example, the U.S. Global Change Research Program, the U.S. National Academies, and Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Many scientific societies have endorsed these findings in their own statements, including the [American Association for the Advancement of Science](#), [American Chemical Society](#), [American Geophysical Union](#), [American Meteorological Society](#), [American Statistical Association](#), [Ecological Society of America](#), and [Geological Society of America](#).

Agricultural and Applied Economics Association  
American Anthropological Association  
American Association for the Advancement of Science  
American Astronomical Society  
American Chemical Society  
American Geophysical Union  
American Institute of Biological Sciences  
American Meteorological Society  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society of Agronomy  
American Society of Animal Science  
American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists  
American Society of Plant Biologists  
American Society of Plant Taxonomists  
American Society of Primatologists  
American Sociological Association  
American Statistical Association  
American Thoracic Society  
Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography  
Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation  
Association of Ecosystem Research Centers  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America  
BioQUEST Curriculum Consortium  
Botanical Society of America  
Consortium for Ocean Leadership  
Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Crop Science Society of America  
Ecological Society of America  
Entomological Society of America  
Geological Society of America  
Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology  
National Association of Marine Laboratories  
Natural Science Collections Alliance  
Organization of Biological Field Stations  
Society for Freshwater Science  
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics

Society for Mathematical Biology  
Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles  
Society of Nematologists  
Society of Systematic Biologists  
Soil Science Society of America  
The American Society of Naturalists  
The Helminthological Society  
The Herpetologists' League  
The Oceanography Society  
University Corporation for Atmospheric Research