

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 9  
OFFERED BY MR. FLORES OF TEXAS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

2 The House of Representatives finds the following:

3 (1) The October 2018 report entitled “Special  
4 Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C” by the Inter-  
5 governmental Panel on Climate Change and the No-  
6 vember 2018 Fourth National Climate Assessment  
7 report found that—

8 (A) human activity is the dominant cause  
9 of observed climate change over the past cen-  
10 tury;

11 (B) a changing climate is causing sea lev-  
12 els to rise and an increase in wildfires, severe  
13 storms, droughts, and other extreme weather  
14 events that threaten human life, healthy com-  
15 munities, and critical infrastructure;

16 (C) global warming at or above 2 degrees  
17 Celsius beyond preindustrialized levels will  
18 cause—

1 (i) mass migration from the regions  
2 most affected by climate change;

3 (ii) more than \$500,000,000,000 in  
4 lost annual economic output in the United  
5 States by the year 2100;

6 (iii) wildfires that, by 2050, will annu-  
7 ally burn at least twice as much forest  
8 area in the western United States than  
9 was typically burned by wildfires in the  
10 years preceding 2019;

11 (iv) a loss of more than 99 percent of  
12 all coral reefs on Earth;

13 (v) more than 350,000,000 more peo-  
14 ple to be exposed globally to deadly heat  
15 stress by 2050; and

16 (vi) a risk of damage to  
17 \$1,000,000,000,000 of public infrastruc-  
18 ture and coastal real estate in the United  
19 States; and

20 (D) global temperatures must be kept  
21 below 1.5 degrees Celsius above  
22 preindustrialized levels to avoid the most severe  
23 impacts of a changing climate, which will re-  
24 quire—

1 (i) global reductions in greenhouse gas  
2 emissions from human sources of 40 to 60  
3 percent from 2010 levels by 2030; and

4 (ii) net-zero global emissions by 2050.

5 (2) Because the United States has historically  
6 been responsible for a disproportionate amount of  
7 greenhouse gas emissions, having emitted 20 percent  
8 of global greenhouse gas emissions through 2014,  
9 and has a high technological capacity, the United  
10 States must take a leading role in reducing emis-  
11 sions through economic transformation.

12 (3) The United States is currently experiencing  
13 several related crises, with—

14 (A) life expectancy declining while basic  
15 needs, such as clean air, clean water, healthy  
16 food, and adequate health care, housing, trans-  
17 portation, and education, are inaccessible to a  
18 significant portion of the United States popu-  
19 lation;

20 (B) a 4-decade trend of wage stagnation,  
21 deindustrialization, and antilabor policies that  
22 has led to—

23 (i) hourly wages overall stagnating  
24 since the 1970s despite increased worker  
25 productivity;

1 (ii) the third-worst level of socio-  
2 economic mobility in the developed world  
3 before the Great Recession;

4 (iii) the erosion of the earning and  
5 bargaining power of workers in the United  
6 States; and

7 (iv) inadequate resources for public  
8 sector workers to confront the challenges  
9 of climate change at local, State, and Fed-  
10 eral levels; and

11 (C) the greatest income inequality since  
12 the 1920s, with—

13 (i) the top 1 percent of earners accru-  
14 ing 91 percent of gains in the first few  
15 years of economic recovery after the Great  
16 Recession;

17 (ii) a large racial wealth divide  
18 amounting to a difference of 20 times  
19 more wealth between the average white  
20 family and the average black family; and

21 (iii) a gender earnings gap that re-  
22 sults in women earning approximately 80  
23 percent as much as men, at the median.

24 (4) Climate change, pollution, and environ-  
25 mental destruction have exacerbated systemic racial,

1 regional, social, environmental, and economic injus-  
2 tices (referred to in this section as “systemic injus-  
3 tices”) by disproportionately affecting indigenous  
4 peoples, communities of color, migrant communities,  
5 deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural  
6 communities, the poor, low-income workers, women,  
7 the elderly, the unhoused, people with disabilities,  
8 and youth (referred to in this section as “frontline  
9 and vulnerable communities”).

10 (5) Climate change constitutes a direct threat  
11 to the national security of the United States—

12 (A) by impacting the economic, environ-  
13 mental, and social stability of countries and  
14 communities around the world; and

15 (B) by acting as a threat multiplier.

16 (6) The Federal Government-led mobilizations  
17 during World War II and the New Deal created the  
18 greatest middle class that the United States has ever  
19 seen, but many members of frontline and vulnerable  
20 communities were excluded from many of the eco-  
21 nomic and societal benefits of those mobilizations.

22 (7) A new national, social, industrial, and eco-  
23 nomic mobilization on a scale not seen since World  
24 War II and the New Deal era is a historic oppor-  
25 tunity—

1 (A) to create millions of good, high-wage  
2 jobs in the United States;

3 (B) to provide unprecedented levels of  
4 prosperity and economic security for all people  
5 of the United States; and

6 (C) to counteract systemic injustices.

7 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

8 It is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

9 (1) it is the duty of the Federal Government to  
10 create a Green New Deal—

11 (A) to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas  
12 emissions through a fair and just transition for  
13 all communities and workers;

14 (B) to create millions of good, high-wage  
15 jobs and ensure prosperity and economic secu-  
16 rity for all people of the United States;

17 (C) to invest in the infrastructure and in-  
18 dustry of the United States to sustainably meet  
19 the challenges of the 21st century;

20 (D) to secure for all people of the United  
21 States for generations to come—

22 (i) clean air and water;

23 (ii) climate and community resiliency;

24 (iii) healthy food;

25 (iv) access to nature; and

1 (v) a sustainable environment; and

2 (E) to promote justice and equity by stop-  
3 ping current, preventing future, and repairing  
4 historic oppression of indigenous peoples, com-  
5 munities of color, migrant communities,  
6 deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural  
7 communities, the poor, low-income workers,  
8 women, the elderly, the unhoused, people with  
9 disabilities, and youth (referred to in this sec-  
10 tion as “frontline and vulnerable commu-  
11 nities”);

12 (2) the goals described in subparagraphs (A)  
13 through (E) of paragraph (1) (referred to in this  
14 section as the “Green New Deal goals”) should be  
15 accomplished through a 10-year national mobiliza-  
16 tion (referred to in this section as the “Green New  
17 Deal mobilization”) that will require the following  
18 goals and projects—

19 (A) building resiliency against climate  
20 change-related disasters, such as extreme  
21 weather, including by leveraging funding and  
22 providing investments for community-defined  
23 projects and strategies;

24 (B) repairing and upgrading the infra-  
25 structure in the United States, including—

1 (i) by eliminating pollution and green-  
2 house gas emissions as much as techno-  
3 logically feasible;

4 (ii) by guaranteeing universal access  
5 to clean water;

6 (iii) by reducing the risks posed by cli-  
7 mate impacts; and

8 (iv) by ensuring that any infrastruc-  
9 ture bill considered by Congress addresses  
10 climate change;

11 (C) meeting 100 percent of the power de-  
12 mand in the United States through clean, re-  
13 newable, and zero-emission energy sources, in-  
14 cluding—

15 (i) by dramatically expanding and up-  
16 grading renewable power sources; and

17 (ii) by deploying new capacity;

18 (D) building or upgrading to energy-effi-  
19 cient, distributed, and “smart” power grids,  
20 and ensuring affordable access to electricity;

21 (E) upgrading all existing buildings in the  
22 United States and building new buildings to  
23 achieve maximum energy efficiency, water effi-  
24 ciency, safety, affordability, comfort, and dura-  
25 bility, including through electrification;

1 (F) spurring massive growth in clean man-  
2 ufacturing in the United States and removing  
3 pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from  
4 manufacturing and industry as much as is tech-  
5 nologically feasible, including by expanding re-  
6 newable energy manufacturing and investing in  
7 existing manufacturing and industry;

8 (G) working collaboratively with farmers  
9 and ranchers in the United States to remove  
10 pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from  
11 the agricultural sector as much as is techno-  
12 logically feasible, including—

13 (i) by supporting family farming;

14 (ii) by investing in sustainable farm-  
15 ing and land use practices that increase  
16 soil health; and

17 (iii) by building a more sustainable  
18 food system that ensures universal access  
19 to healthy food;

20 (H) overhauling transportation systems in  
21 the United States to remove pollution and  
22 greenhouse gas emissions from the transpor-  
23 tation sector as much as is technologically fea-  
24 sible, including through investment in—

1 (i) zero-emission vehicle infrastructure  
2 and manufacturing;

3 (ii) clean, affordable, and accessible  
4 public transit; and

5 (iii) high-speed rail;

6 (I) mitigating and managing the long-term  
7 adverse health, economic, and other effects of  
8 pollution and climate change, including by pro-  
9 viding funding for community-defined projects  
10 and strategies;

11 (J) removing greenhouse gases from the  
12 atmosphere and reducing pollution by restoring  
13 natural ecosystems through proven low-tech so-  
14 lutions that increase soil carbon storage, such  
15 as land preservation and afforestation;

16 (K) restoring and protecting threatened,  
17 endangered, and fragile ecosystems through lo-  
18 cally appropriate and science-based projects  
19 that enhance biodiversity and support climate  
20 resiliency;

21 (L) cleaning up existing hazardous waste  
22 and abandoned sites, ensuring economic devel-  
23 opment and sustainability on those sites;

1 (M) identifying other emission and pollu-  
2 tion sources and creating solutions to remove  
3 them; and

4 (N) promoting the international exchange  
5 of technology, expertise, products, funding, and  
6 services, with the aim of making the United  
7 States the international leader on climate ac-  
8 tion, and to help other countries achieve a  
9 Green New Deal;

10 (3) a Green New Deal must be developed  
11 through transparent and inclusive consultation, col-  
12 laboration, and partnership with frontline and vul-  
13 nerable communities, labor unions, worker coopera-  
14 tives, civil society groups, academia, and businesses;  
15 and

16 (4) to achieve the Green New Deal goals and  
17 mobilization, a Green New Deal will require the fol-  
18 lowing goals and projects—

19 (A) providing and leveraging, in a way that  
20 ensures that the public receives appropriate  
21 ownership stakes and returns on investment,  
22 adequate capital (including through community  
23 grants, public banks, and other public financ-  
24 ing), technical expertise, supporting policies,  
25 and other forms of assistance to communities,

1 organizations, Federal, State, and local govern-  
2 ment agencies, and businesses working on the  
3 Green New Deal mobilization;

4 (B) ensuring that the Federal Government  
5 takes into account the complete environmental  
6 and social costs and impacts of emissions  
7 through—

8 (i) existing laws;

9 (ii) new policies and programs; and

10 (iii) ensuring that frontline and vul-  
11 nerable communities shall not be adversely  
12 affected;

13 (C) providing resources, training, and  
14 high-quality education, including higher edu-  
15 cation, to all people of the United States, with  
16 a focus on frontline and vulnerable commu-  
17 nities, so that all people of the United States  
18 may be full and equal participants in the Green  
19 New Deal mobilization;

20 (D) making public investments in the re-  
21 search and development of new clean and re-  
22 newable energy technologies and industries;

23 (E) directing investments to spur economic  
24 development, deepen and diversify industry and  
25 business in local and regional economies, and

1 build wealth and community ownership, while  
2 prioritizing high-quality job creation and eco-  
3 nomic, social, and environmental benefits in  
4 frontline and vulnerable communities, and  
5 deindustrialized communities, that may other-  
6 wise struggle with the transition away from  
7 greenhouse gas intensive industries;

8 (F) ensuring the use of democratic and  
9 participatory processes that are inclusive of and  
10 led by frontline and vulnerable communities and  
11 workers to plan, implement, and administer the  
12 Green New Deal mobilization at the local level;

13 (G) ensuring that the Green New Deal mo-  
14 bilization creates high-quality union jobs that  
15 pay prevailing wages, hires local workers, offers  
16 training and advancement opportunities, and  
17 guarantees wage and benefit parity for workers  
18 affected by the transition;

19 (H) guaranteeing a job with a family-sus-  
20 taining wage, adequate family and medical  
21 leave, paid vacations, and retirement security to  
22 all people of the United States;

23 (I) strengthening and protecting the right  
24 of all workers to organize, unionize, and collec-

1 tively bargain free of coercion, intimidation, and  
2 harassment;

3 (J) strengthening and enforcing labor,  
4 workplace health and safety, antidiscrimination,  
5 and wage and hour standards across all employ-  
6 ers, industries, and sectors;

7 (K) enacting and enforcing trade rules,  
8 procurement standards, and border adjustments  
9 with strong labor and environmental protec-  
10 tions—

11 (i) to stop the transfer of jobs and  
12 pollution overseas; and

13 (ii) to grow domestic manufacturing  
14 in the United States;

15 (L) ensuring that public lands, waters, and  
16 oceans are protected and that eminent domain  
17 is not abused;

18 (M) obtaining the free, prior, and informed  
19 consent of indigenous peoples for all decisions  
20 that affect indigenous peoples and their tradi-  
21 tional territories, honoring all treaties and  
22 agreements with indigenous peoples, and pro-  
23 tecting and enforcing the sovereignty and land  
24 rights of indigenous peoples;

1 (N) ensuring a commercial environment  
2 where every businessperson is free from unfair  
3 competition and domination by domestic or  
4 international monopolies; and

5 (O) providing all people of the United  
6 States with—

7 (i) high-quality health care;

8 (ii) affordable, safe, and adequate  
9 housing;

10 (iii) economic security; and

11 (iv) clean water, clean air, healthy and  
12 affordable food, and access to nature.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to recognize the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal.”.

