
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 421 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY KRUEGER-BRANEKY, JUNE 22, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,
JUNE 22, 2017

A RESOLUTION

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

4 WHEREAS, The Paris Agreement unified nations of the world to
5 address climate change; and

6 WHEREAS, This historic agreement, which was adopted in 2015,
7 was comprised of 195 countries, showing the growing concern of
8 climate change; and

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

12 WHEREAS, The Paris Agreement was the first step to providing
13 a long-term plan for balancing greenhouse gas emissions; and

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

16 WHEREAS, In response to the United States' withdrawal, the
17 United States Climate Alliance was formed by the states of
18 California, New York and Washington and the states have agreed

1 to uphold the elements of the Paris Agreement on climate change;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Within a few days of its formation, 10 additional
4 states and territories, including Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii,
5 Massachusetts, Minnesota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont and
6 Virginia and the territory of Puerto Rico joined the United
7 States Climate Alliance; and

8 WHEREAS, Members of the United States Climate Alliance are
9 committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by between 26%
10 and 28% of 2005 levels and meeting or exceeding the goals of the
11 Federal Clean Power Plan; and

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

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

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

22 WHEREAS, According to Mayor Peduto, "Pittsburgh is the
23 example of why the Paris agreement is good for economic
24 development: such work is good for business too"; and

25 WHEREAS, Mayor Peduto also stated, "We've rebuilt our
26 economy on the future and our people, not the past"; and

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

29 WHEREAS, It is in the best interests of the Commonwealth of
30 Pennsylvania to join the United States Climate Alliance to

1 continue to move forward in addressing climate change and
2 stimulating economic growth and job creation from the increase
3 of energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources;
4 therefore be it

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

10 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
11 the President of the United States, the Governor, the presiding
12 officers of each house of Congress and each member of Congress
13 from Pennsylvania.