



September 17, 2019

Dear Representatives McEachin, Haaland, Dingell, Blumenauer, Tonko and Pingree:

The undersigned health and medical organizations support the goal of a 100% clean energy economy by 2050 to protect health from the impacts of climate change. We thank you for your leadership pursuing legislation to achieve this goal and urge you to continue prioritizing public health as you develop the legislation.

Climate change is a health emergency. The science is clear that communities across the country are experiencing enhanced conditions for ozone pollution, dangerous extreme weather and flooding, wildfires and wildfire smoke, vector-borne diseases, and allergies, and that these impacts will continue to worsen without dramatic action to address climate change.

Children, seniors, pregnant women, low-income communities, some communities of color, people with disabilities and people with chronic disease bear a disproportionate burden of the health impacts of climate change.

To fully protect public health, the nation must dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions while cleaning up other harmful emissions from polluting sources at the same time. In the electricity sector, this means switching to clean, renewable electricity sources and avoiding sources that add to the burden of air pollution, such as burning biomass. Communities must also have the resources they need to prepare for the health impacts they cannot avoid.

We strongly support the goals of 100% clean energy to reach net-zero climate pollution by 2050; to improve public health, particularly in communities that are disproportionately vulnerable to air pollution and climate change impacts; and to prepare communities for climate impacts and risks. We thank you for your leadership on this effort and look forward to working with you to maximize the health benefits of actions to address climate change.

Sincerely,

Alliances of Nurses for Healthy Environments

American College of Physicians

American Lung Association

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America

Children's Environmental Health Network

Climate for Health

Health Care Without Harm

National Medical Association

Physicians for Social Responsibility