

Kalamazoo Central Climate Advocates

A resolution of the Kalamazoo Central Climate Activist Group

A Youth Advisory Commission

Calling for Congressional action on climate change

WHEREAS, children represent a particularly vulnerable group because greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere will continue to accumulate over the coming decades and will profoundly impact our current students throughout their lives, as well as the lives of future generations; and,

WHEREAS, climate change is a social justice and equity issue. While climate change impacts all people, it disproportionately affects people of color and people in poverty, thereby exacerbating existing inequities and limiting equality of opportunity which is a foundational aspiration for modern America; and,

WHEREAS, we agree with the City of Kalamazoo Mayor, Council and Environmental Concerns Commission who all declared October 21, 2019 that a climate emergency threatens our citizens, city, region, state, and the natural world; and,

WHEREAS, there is agreement among scientists that human activities which create greenhouse gas emissions are the main cause of climate change; and,

WHEREAS, climate change is inherently threatening our own community with the rising flooding, extreme temperatures, spread of disease, lack of regionally grown foods, and,

WHEREAS, the global impact, the urgency, and the magnitude of climate change calls for leadership and action in all sectors of society, all institutions, and all elected leaders; and,

WHEREAS, young people are unfairly impacted by national climate inaction because the effects will continue to build up over the coming decades and will create a burden throughout our lives, as well as the lives of future generations; and,

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT . . .

1. We declare climate change a generational justice, human rights, social justice, and equity issue for people across the world;
2. We call on Congress to swiftly end decades of neglect by passing commonsense climate policies, such as carbon-pricing, a clean energy transition plan, and/or green infrastructure investments, to restore the climate for the good of young people and future generations;
3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kalamazoo Public School District underscores the need for full community participation, inclusion, and support for the climate mobilization effort.

Kalamazoo Central Climate Advocates Group

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