

Letter to Members of the Congressional delegation who have cosponsored the Federal Green New Deal: Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D-7) Rep. Adam Smith (D-9)

Don't exacerbate the climate crisis while addressing Covid-19; rather, let's build a healthy future for all.

Pass the Federal Green New Deal! Coalition commends the commitment of our elected leaders from WA State to move quickly to address the suffering from COVID 19 and the response necessary to contain it. However, COVID 19 has shined a light on the vulnerabilities that people in our communities face every day and has made those even worse.

We are advocates of the Green New Deal as a way to not only address the climate crisis, but to also substantially address the inequities and failings of our current economic system. Many American families cannot afford health care, struggle to pay the rent and have enough food, and meet basic needs.

We must go forward not back. In light of the urgent need to address both the climate crisis and the devastating effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, we ask that you immediately reject two aspects of President Trump's pandemic proposals: the oil industry bailout, and the payroll tax cut. A bailout of the oil industry will benefit CEOs, not working people, while contributing to growing climate disasters. Now is the perfect time to instead champion a just transition to clean energy, as the Green New Deal proposes. The payroll tax will gut Social Security and Medicare two vital programs for all Americans.

We also need to immediately put into action other demands of the Green New Deal. A payment to everyone who needs it is a good first step but this crisis is projected to last for a year or more. We need stronger solutions including:

- A Universal Basic Income so people can work or stay home if necessary and pay their living expenses; in the long run a Federal Jobs Guarantee.
- Universal health care.
- Investment in a clean energy infrastructure that will put millions of people to work.

These policies would help ameliorate the present crisis while at the same time leave the country in a much stronger position to address the next crisis.

We are asking you, our congressional representatives and senators, to introduce legislation that addresses both the current pandemic and the climate crisis, at the level required.

Participating organizations: 350 Eastside
350 Seattle
350 Spokane

350 Tacoma
350 Wenatchee Earthcare Not Warfare FUSE Washington Kadima
National Writer's Union [UAW 1981] Washington Chapter
Pride At Work
PSARA [Puget Sound Advo- cates for Retirement Action]
SEIU 775NW
South Seattle Climate Action Network
Sunrise Seattle UAW 4121
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