In the House of Representatives

Mr. Raskin submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on ______________________

Concurrent Resolution

Expressing the sense of Congress that the United States is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy climate for future generations, and to creating solutions for restoring the climate.

Whereas humanity has a continuing obligation to provide future generations a safe and healthy climate, similar to the climate of a hundred years ago;

Whereas the human species has never before lived with sustained atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO2) levels above 300 parts per million (ppm), which were exceeded in 1925;
Whereas current CO₂ levels are already about 410 ppm, and are expected to rise to 450 ppm or higher by 2050, based on current Paris Agreement goals;

Whereas the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has stated that temperatures corresponding to CO₂ levels of 450 ppm or above will lead to grave damage to ecosystems;

Whereas restoring CO₂ to levels of 300 ppm requires removing about 1 trillion tons of CO₂ from the atmosphere, and doing that in 20 to 50 years requires removing 50 gigatons (GT) of CO₂ (which is equal to 50 billion tons) per year from the atmosphere;

Whereas multiple methods capable of CO₂ removal from the atmosphere at 50 GT CO₂ per year have been demonstrated, and annual costs for implementing these methods are expected to be less than 1 to 3 percent of global gross domestic product (GDP);

Whereas if known methods prove to be incapable of removing 50 GT CO₂ per year, then we must develop other methods that will restore a safe and healthy climate for future generations;

Whereas scientists have researched methods for keeping warming below 2° C, but have not yet researched the best methods to remove all excess CO₂, stop sea-level rise, and restore a safe and healthy climate for future generations; and

Whereas declaring a goal of restoring a safe and healthy climate will encourage scientists to research the most effective ways to restore safe CO₂ levels, stop sea-level rise, and restore a safe and healthy climate for future generations: Now, therefore, be it
Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the United States is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy climate for future generations, and to creating solutions for restoring the climate.