

An Open Letter to President Donald J. Trump

Date: January 2, 2020

Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

Americans often welcome in the New Year by making resolutions. In that spirit, many of us are committing to taking steps to improve our health. We're resolving to move more, eat better and get more fresh air. We're trying to improve our financial health as well, by spending more wisely. Mr. President, with one action, you could help us achieve all of these things:

Stop our withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement.

Our organizations represent hundreds of thousands of our country's doctors, nurses and other health care providers. We are seeing, right now, the harms to our health that global warming is creating. We foresee much greater health harms to all Americans, especially our children and grandchildren, if we do not join with the rest of the world to respond to the climate crisis—because climate change is a public health emergency.

Rejoining the Paris Climate Agreement is not just about preventing the worst of the devastating health harms climate change will bring. It's also about seizing this public health crisis and turning it into a major public health opportunity. Climate solutions are health solutions.

Accelerating the inevitable progress toward renewable energy and energy efficiency will allow us all to breathe cleaner air and drink cleaner water. Building our communities and transportation systems to be biking- and walking-friendly, and building more affordable mass transit will help people live more active, healthier lifestyles. Climate-friendly approaches to agriculture, soil management and forests will improve the quality of our food, water and air.

Every one of these steps will save lives, increase productivity and reduce health costs.

America can do this. And the world needs America's leadership.

President Trump, we ask you to make a New Year's resolution that will protect and improve the health of every American next year and every year to come.

Stop the withdrawal from the Paris Agreement.

Signed, Mona Sarfaty, MD  
Executive Director  
Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health

We join with the Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health, to ask President Donald J. Trump to make a New Year's Resolution to protect Americans' health, safety and wellbeing by stopping the withdrawal from the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

Academy of Integrative Health and Medicine  
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments  
American Academy of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology  
American Medical Association



American Association of Community Psychiatrists  
Climate Psychiatry Alliance  
Endocrine Society  
Florida Clinicians for Climate Action  
Islamic Medical Society of North America  
Massachusetts Medical Society  
Montana Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Medical Association  
Medical Advocates for Healthy Air North Carolina  
Ohio Clinicians for Climate Action  
Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment  
Vermont Climate and Health Alliance  
Virginia Clinicians for Climate Action