Tackling the Climate Crisis by Investing in Carbon Dioxide Removal

119th Congress

House Sponsors: Reps. Paul Tonko (NY-20) and Scott Peters (CA-52)
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CO2 removal is key in fighting climate change

- To address the climate crisis, we must **rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and remove excess carbon emissions** already in the atmosphere.
    - The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change recently confirmed this fact, stating that the **deployment of carbon dioxide removal (CDR) technologies and processes will be "unavoidable if net zero CO2 or GHG emissions are to be achieved."**
- The United States stands to be a global leader in CDR due to its vast geological storage potential and technical expertise.
- Carbon dioxide removal can be accomplished through natural and technological means, and we will need both to achieve our climate goals.
- On the technology side, carbon removal solutions remain nascent and expensive.
    - One major reason for this is a lack of a long-term demand signal for carbon removal.

Congress must take bold action now!

- **The Carbon Dioxide Removal Leadership Act addresses the problem of demand uncertainty** by creating a sustainable, long-term market for direct air capture and other technology-based carbon removal solutions.
- Congress can implement this legislation and, in doing so, help deploy innovative carbon removal projects across the nation, create tens of thousands of good-paying jobs, and boost economic development in energy communities.

The Carbon Dioxide Removal Leadership Act of 2026:

- Requires the Department of Energy (DOE) to remove an increasing amount of carbon dioxide emissions using direct air capture or other technology-based removal solutions;
- Ensures high standards for measurement, monitoring, reporting, and verifying carbon removals and for robust public engagement;
- Sets a declining per-ton price ceiling to incentivize cost reductions over time and give flexibility for DOE to invest in nascent technologies with high carbon removal potential;
- Creates a set-side for newer CDR technologies to promote a broad portfolio of technologies; and
- Prioritizes domestic job creation, environmental justice, innovative technologies, and community benefits.