

## Syracuse FOCUS THE NATION follow-up actions

Please call one or more of your representatives in Washington and urge them to promote strong legislation to combat global warming. Every phone call counts. Written letters are good, too. (E-mails are generally the least effective lobbying tool.) Here is everything you need:

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### **Senator Chuck Schumer**

Washington, DC (202) 224-6542                      Syracuse (315) 423-5471  
Mailing address: 100 South Clinton St., Room 841, Syracuse, NY 13261-7318

#### **Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton**

Washington, DC (202) 224-4451                      Syracuse (315) 448-0470  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 7378, 100 South Clinton St., Syracuse, NY 13261-7378

#### **Congressman Jim Walsh**

Syracuse District Office (315) 423-5657  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 7306 100 South Clinton St., Syracuse, New York 13261-7306  
or by e-mail via <http://walsh.house.gov/zipauth.shtml>  
(Be sure to thank Congressman Walsh for attending Focus the Nation at SU and SUNY-ESF)

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### SUGGESTED PHONE SCRIPT (FOR STUDENTS):

"On January 31, students all across the country discussed possible solutions to the climate crisis in an event called Focus the Nation. We want our government to take bold action now to prevent the worst-case scenarios from becoming the reality of our adult lives.

"In particular, I want to urge [the Senator/Congressman] to pursue legislation that would...  
*[CHOOSE your priority from the list below and explain briefly what actions you want taken. Here are some examples:]*

...INVEST IN THE CLEAN ENERGY REVOLUTION. If the federal government would put \$25 billion per year toward developing solar, wind, and geothermal energy technologies, this would pay off in future years. It would help these emerging industries compete in the marketplace and help ordinary Americans to reduce our carbon emissions.

...ADOPT RIGOROUS STANDARDS FOR AUTOMOBILE FUEL EFFICIENCY along the California model. This would not only reduce carbon emissions, it would also help us reduce our dependence on foreign oil, clean up our air, and improve the ability of US automakers to compete on the global market.

...REQUIRE ALL NEW BUILDINGS TO BE CARBON-NEUTRAL BY 2030. Building energy use accounts for about 40% of all carbon emissions in the US. New technologies can allow buildings to produce and store their own energy, while making them healthier and more attractive places to live, work, learn or play. Legislation that would phase in a reduction in fossil fuel use in new buildings would create jobs, help entrepreneurs to market their new technologies, and save money on maintenance and fuel costs in the future.

"Thank you for your attention to this issue."

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THE TOP PRIORITIES THAT WERE IDENTIFIED IN THE "CHOOSE YOUR FUTURE" VOTE  
There is lots of information about each priority if you follow the links.

#### Invest in the clean energy revolution

To provide the low-cost climate stabilization tools that today's young people will need in the near future, the US government should invest \$25 billion dollars per year in public research, development & diffusion (RD&D) of clean energy technologies. (For details see <http://www.focusthenation.org/forum/index.php?topic=18.0>)

#### Invest in energy efficiency

a) The United States as a whole should adopt California's standards requiring a 30% reduction in global warming pollution from new vehicles sold by 2016. (<http://www.focusthenation.org/forum/index.php?topic=24.0>)

b) Create one million new jobs by saving energy. Support job opportunities including audits, weatherization, retrofits for buildings, and installation of solar hot water systems. Fund a training program for 500,000 workers. Create a Clean Energy Corps to employ training graduates from high unemployment regions, providing pathways out of urban and rural poverty. (<http://www.focusthenation.org/forum/index.php?topic=25.0>)

c) expand efficiency programs like the Energy Star appliance efficiency standards; include efficiency in the Renewable Portfolio standards for gas and electric utilities; increase funding for testing appliance efficiency; and strengthen efficiency laws and regulations. (<http://www.focusthenation.org/forum/index.php?topic=40.0>)

#### Build green, carbon-neutral buildings

By 2030, require by law that all new buildings in the US be "carbon neutral" (no net emissions of global warming pollution from fossil fuel combustion). (<http://www.focusthenation.org/forum/index.php?topic=22.0>)

#### **Other priorities on the list:**

Support stronger forests (<http://www.focusthenation.org/forum/index.php?topic=20.0>)

Tax carbon emissions (<http://www.focusthenation.org/forum/index.php?topic=17.0>)

No new coal plants without carbon capture and sequestration

(<http://www.focusthenation.org/forum/index.php?topic=23.0>)

Cap CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (<http://www.focusthenation.org/forum/index.php?topic=19.0>)

Promote biofuels (<http://www.focusthenation.org/forum/index.php?topic=21.0>)