

Floor Statement of Rep. Rush Holt
Safe Climate Caucus
September 25, 2013

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Safe Climate Caucus to say the evidence is clear: the earth's climate is changing and human actions are the primary cause.

Climate change is not something that can be addressed at the last minute. The continuing resolution, the debt ceiling, the farm bill – we're governing by crisis now. This Congress has failed to act or even consider legislation related to climate change, because this Congress is stuck in a last minute way of thinking.

Governing by crisis makes it nearly impossible to undertake those actions that require a long term perspective. Those things that are important but not recognized as an immediate crisis. But climate change is immediate and it is a crisis.

Just ask the victims of the droughts, the floods, the wildfires, the superstorms that are costing American lives and dollars. Ask the victims if this is a crisis.

To start dealing with this crisis, we should stop emitting greenhouse gases and wean ourselves from fossil fuels.