

What is the Green New Deal?

- The Green New Deal (GND) is a Democratic proposal to address climate change by transitioning the country to 100% renewable electric generation and providing green jobs for unemployed people
- Climate-related legislation is unlikely to pass the Republican-held Senate, but supporters argue it will give Democrats legislation to pass if they win the White House and Senate in 2020
- Initial conversations included a proposal to create a Select Committee devoted to fleshing out the plan



Infrastructure

- A major policy plank of the Green New Deal relates to investment in sustainable infrastructure
- The plan proposes the construction of infrastructure in coastal communities to mitigate the effects of climate change, extreme temperature and natural disasters
- It would also repair and improve existing transportation infrastructure

Green technology

- The Green New Deal would encourage investment in green technology, as well as related products, services, and expertise
- The plan's aspiration is to make green technology a core part of the American economy
- Supporters frame the Green New Deal as a poverty-reduction measure that will help resolve socioeconomic and racial inequalities

Sources: Suzane Gamboa, "Ocasio-Cortez, diverse lawmakers priorities climate change with 'Green New Deal,'" NBC News, Nov. 30, 2018; Timothy Cama, "Dems rally for Green New Deal," The Hill, Nov. 30, 2018; Press Release, Congresswoman-elect Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, "Select Committee for a Green New Deal."

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) and Sen. Ed Markey (D-MA) unveiled a Green New Deal (GND) resolution on February 7, 2019

The nonbinding resolution envisions an expanded federal role in cutting emissions and providing economic support

Provisions include:

1.

Achieving net-zero US greenhouse gas emissions

4.

Decarbonizing major segments of the economy, such as power, manufacturing, buildings and transportation

2.

Transitioning vulnerable communities and workers to the new system in a 'fair and just' manner

5.

Investing in climate-friendly infrastructure

3.

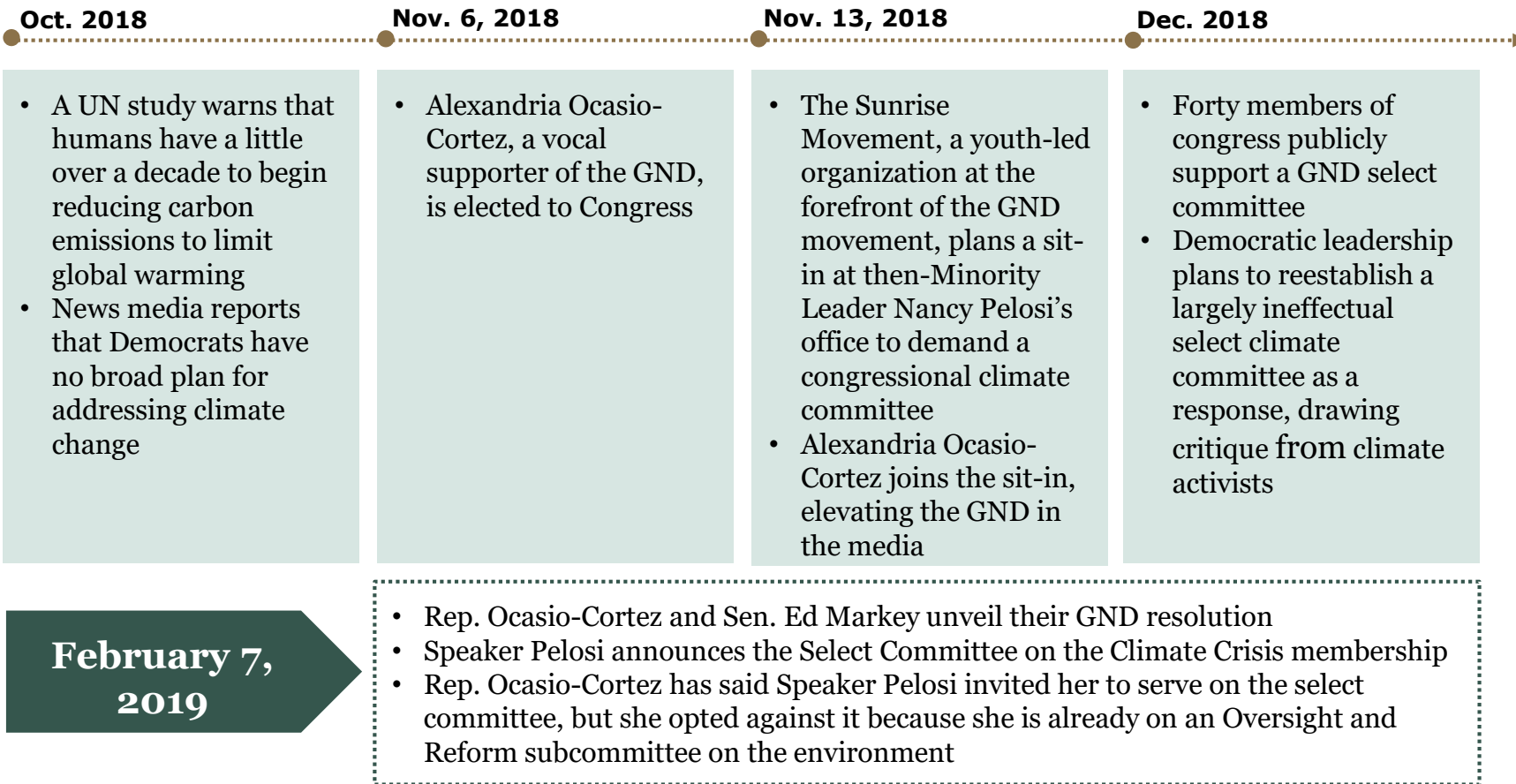
Creating millions of jobs

6.

Establishing universal health care and job guarantees

Rep. Ocasio-Cortez has spearheaded the plan for economic mobilization & carbon neutrality

GND Timeline



Sources: Ben Geman, "The Green New Deal resolution is here," Axios, Feb. 7, 2019; David Roberts, "The Green New Deal, explained," Vox, Jan. 7, 2019; Timothy Cama & Mike Lillis, "Dems damp down hopes for climate change agenda," The Hill, Oct. 17, 2018; "Certified Results from the Nov. 6, 2018 General Election for U.S. Congress," Ny.gov; David Roberts, "Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez is already pressuring Nancy Pelosi on climate change," Vox, Nov. 15, 2018; Lindsey McPherson, "Ocasio-Cortez says being left off climate select committee not a snub," Roll Call, Feb. 7, 2019.

To become a viable bill, the resolution must develop over the coming months

The resolution provides few details on funding, carbon tax and prohibited energy



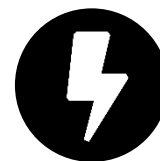
Cost

- The resolution includes no specific cost estimate for the federal investments it proposes
- It calls for grants, public banks and other public financing
- It also requires significant technological investment by the federal government



Carbon Tax

- The resolution does not state whether the GND would impose a carbon tax
- Some advocates have stated that a tax could be part of the policy, but would not be a central pillar
- A carbon tax could be a controversial measure, as debates over its efficacy divide Democrats



Energy forms

- The text does not explicitly sanction or prohibit controversial forms of energy
- Phrasing in the resolution appears to allow technologies that some climate activists oppose, such as fossil fuels with carbon capture and nuclear energy

Congressional contenders for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination have cosponsored the GND resolution

The GND will likely play a role in the 2020 democratic presidential primary

Cosponsors of House Resolution:

- Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]
- Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-13]
- Rep. Serrano, Jose E. [D-NY-15]
- Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]
- Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-51]
- Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]
- Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]
- Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]
- Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]
- Rep. Boyle, Brendan F. [D-PA-2]
- Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20]
- Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]
- Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]
- Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]
- Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]
- Rep. Pressley, Ayanna [D-MA-7]
- Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]
- Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16]
- Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2]
- Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]
- Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]
- Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]
- Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]
- Rep. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]
- Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]
- Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]
- Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]
- Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6]
- Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]
- Rep. Levin, Mike [D-CA-49]
- Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]
- Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]
- Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]
- Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]
- Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. [D-IL-4]
- Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]
- Rep. Haaland, Debra A. [D-NM-1]
- Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]
- Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]
- Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]
- Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]

- Rep. Clark, Katherine M. [D-MA-5]
- Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]
- Rep. Mucarsel-Powell, Debbie [D-FL-26]
- Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]
- Rep. Grijalva, Raul M. [D-AZ-3]
- Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5]
- Rep. Sablan, Gregorio Kilili Camacho [D-MP-At Large]
- Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]
- Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]
- Rep. Maloney, Sean Patrick [D-NY-18]
- Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]
- Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]
- Rep. Levin, Andy [D-MI-9]
- Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]
- Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]
- Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]
- Rep. Larson, John B. [D-CT-1]
- Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]
- Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28]
- Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]
- Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]
- Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]
- Rep. Trahan, Lori [D-MA-3]
- Rep. Gomez, Jimmy [D-CA-34]
- Rep. Kennedy, Joseph P., III [D-MA-4]
- Rep. Waters, Maxine [D-CA-43]

Cosponsors of Senate Resolution:

- Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]
- **Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]**
- **Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]**
- **Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]**
- **Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]**
- Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]
- Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]
- Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]
- **Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]**
- **Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]**
- Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]

* Names that are **bolded and italicized** are 2020 presidential contenders

Sources: "H.Res.109 – Recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal," Congress.gov; "S.Res.59 – A resolution recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal," Congress.gov.

Congressional contenders for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination have cosponsored the GND resolution

The GND will likely play a role in the 2020 democratic presidential primary



Senator Elizabeth Warren

"Senator Warren has been a longtime advocate of aggressively addressing climate change and shifting toward renewables, and supports the idea of a Green New Deal to ambitiously tackle our climate crisis, economic inequality, and racial injustice."

-A Senate aide for Sen. Warren



Senator Bernie Sanders

"We must enact bold solutions to save our planet from the disastrous effects of climate change by passing the Green New Deal to save the planet and create millions of new jobs."

- Sen. Sanders, on Twitter



Senator Kamala Harris

"The Green New Deal is a bold plan to drastically shift our country to 100% clean and renewable energy. We will repair our country's crumbling infrastructure, upgrade buildings across the nation, and dramatically cut greenhouse gas emissions."

- Sen. Harris

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Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

“We cannot wait another day. I urge all of my colleagues to fight with me for a Green New Deal that puts Americans to work to solve this extraordinary challenge.”

- Sen. Gillibrand



Senator Cory Booker

“We must take bold action on climate change & create a green economy that benefits all Americans. Excited to support a #GreenNewDeal.”

-Sen. Booker, on Twitter

Sources: “Gillibrand Joins Senator Markey, Rep. Ocasio-Cortez And Other Members Of The House And Senate To Introduce Historic Resolution,” [Gillibrand.senate.gov](https://www.gillibrand.senate.gov); @CoryBooker, Twitter, Dec. 14, 2018.

Select Committee on the Climate Crisis overview



Mandate

- The Select Committee was established by House Resolution 6 in the 116th Congress, which contains the House's rules
- The sole mandate of the Select Committee is to **“investigate, study, make findings, and develop recommendations on policies, strategies, and innovations to achieve substantial and permanent reductions in pollution and other activities that contribute to the climate crisis”**



Expectations for the Select Committee's work

- Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi has stated that she expects the Select Committee to:
 - Spearhead Democrats' work to develop innovative solutions to mitigate and reverse the climate crisis
 - “Generate the energy and action necessary to permanently reduce pollution”
- To do this, the Select Committee may hold public hearings and recommend subpoenas or depositions to standing committees, although the Select Committee does not itself have subpoena powers
- It will make the reports and proposals that it generates available to the public
- It has no legislative jurisdiction, and thus is not expected to take legislative action on bills or resolutions