Addressing Climate Change: A Policy Proposal for the U.S. Congress

POLS 210 Week 7 Assignment

Introduction to the Assignment

- Exploring overlooked societal issues.
- Focus on problems beyond healthcare, economy, and national security.
- Engaging Congress with a policy solution.
- Aim: Informative and engaging delivery.



Selection of the Issue -Climate Change

- Climate change is a critical issue.
- Noted by Pew Research as a major concern.
- Impacts diverse aspects: environment, economy, health.
- Increasing relevance in political and public discourse.
- Urgency recognized globally.



Government Current Actions on Climate Change

- Federal policies aimed at reducing emissions.
- Investment in renewable energy sources.
- Regulations on industrial pollutants.
- International agreements participation.
- Incentives for green technology adoption.
- Criticisms of pace and effectiveness.



Identifying Policy Gaps

Current measures insufficient to meet targets.

Lack of comprehensive national strategy.

Inadequate support for affected industries.

Insufficient public awareness programs.

Need for stronger international collaboration.

Disparities in policy impact across regions.

Proposed Policy Solution

Introduction of a comprehensive chimate action plan.

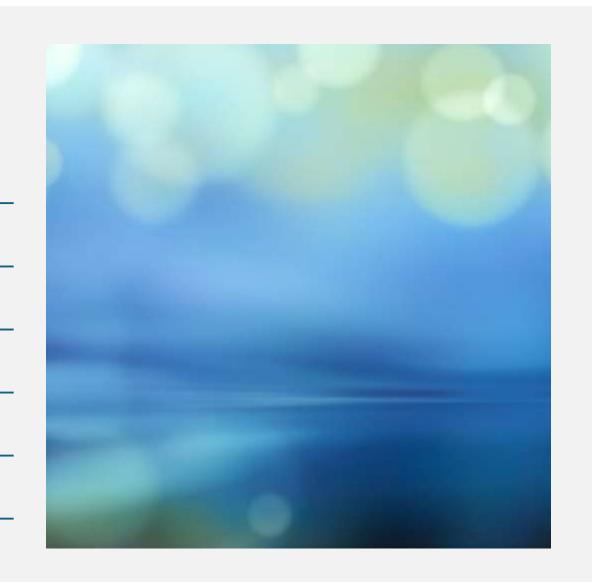
Strengthening emission regulations.

Enhanced support for renewable energy.

National awareness and education campaign.

Encouraging local government initiatives.

Improving international cooperation mechanisms.



Problem Explanation Why It Matters

- Impact on natural disasters frequency.
- Economic costs of environmental degradation.
- Health risks from pollution and heatwaves.
- Threats to biodiversity and ecosystems.
- Social and economic inequalities exacerbated.
- Future generational impact considerations.



Competing Solutions Overview

- Solution 1: Cap and trade systems.
- Solution 2: Carbon tax implementations.
- Pros and cons of marketbased approaches.
- Debate on government vs. private sector roles.
- Effectiveness in international contexts.
- Public reception and political feasibility.



Why Our Solution is Better

Direct regulation + market incentives blend. Addresses gaps in existing policies. Sustainable and long-term oriented. Inclusive of all economic sectors. Designed to be adaptable to new technologies. Supportive of global climate goals.

Reference Slide

EIA. (2024). Homepage—U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA). https://www.eia.gov/index.php

Harvard Business Review. (2024). Harvard Business Review—Ideas and Advice for Leaders. https://hbr.org/

Nadeem, R. (2019, December 17). 1. Views of the major problems facing the country. *Pew Research Center*.

https://www.pewresearch.org/politics/2019/12/17/views-of-the-major-problems-facing-the-country/

The Council on Foreign Relations. (2024). Council on Foreign Relations. Council on Foreign Relations. https://www.cfr.org

UNEP, U. N. (2024). UNEP - UN Environment Programme. UNEP - UN Environment Programme. http://www.unep.org/node

US EPA, O. (2013, March 20). U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [Collections and Lists]. https://www.epa.gov/home