



**UNA ★ USA**  
**Iowa Division**

**Advocacy News**

c/o Iowa UNA  
20 E Market St  
Iowa City, IA 52245  
319-337-7290

**June 2019**

## **S.868: Women and Climate Change Act of 2019**

by Caryl Lyons

**S.868 - Women and Climate Change Act of 2019**  
116th Congress (2019-2020)

The “Women and Climate Change Act of 2019” intends to “develop coordinated strategies to mitigate the impact of climate change on women and girls around the world.” Introduced by Representative Barbara Lee (D-Calif) and Senator Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii), this law would establish a Federal Interagency Working Group on Women and Climate Change within the United States Department of State.

Senator Hirono notes, “For far too long, women have been left out of the conversation on how best to confront the challenges of climate change, though across the globe women are disproportionately impacted by its effects.” Climate change has adversely affected public health epidemics, destabilized communities, and forced migrations, to mention some of its more wide-spread effects. The bill hopes to involve more women leaders in developing sustainable plans to

alleviate climate change.

The “Women and Climate Change Act of 2019” (S.868) will focus on two important issues simultaneously: increased roles for women and increased attention to climate change, including rising sea levels, floods, droughts, and more violent storms, all of which directly affect the quality of women’s lives.

The Sierra Club, among other organizations, has endorsed this bill.

You can contact your elected Senators and/or Representative to let them know of your support for this bill.

For more information, see Yale Climate Connections, which has created a reading list of books that connect gender and climate change:

[www.yaleclimateconnections.org/2019/03/a-reading-list-on-women-and-climate-change/](http://www.yaleclimateconnections.org/2019/03/a-reading-list-on-women-and-climate-change/)

All members and friends  
are invited  
to the

**Iowa United Nations  
Association  
Annual Assembly**

**Saturday, June 15**

**2:30 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Liberty High School**

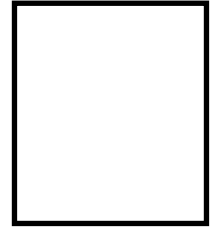
1400 NE Dubuque Street  
North Liberty, Iowa

The program  
will include a  
presentation by  
**Jean Paul  
Mugemuzi**  
in observance of  
**World Refugee Day**  
and the  
presentation  
of Iowa UNA's  
**Garst Awards.**

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## Address Service Requested

### Roll Back Funding Cuts!

UNA-USA members are strongly encouraged to contact their members of Congress to urge full funding of the U.S. contributions to the UN's Regular Budget, Peacekeeping Operations, and specialized agencies. The Trump Administration has proposed drastic cuts that would paralyze the UN. We must speak out in opposition.

Our voices are important. Last year, faced with similar drastic cuts, UNA members across the nation took action. Five hundred people attended the 2018 Day on the Hill in Washington and visited over 300 Congressional offices. Members sent nearly 8,000 emails and tweets in 2018, and 1,800 members attended the UNA-USA Leadership Summit in February.

We restored the cuts last year, and we must do it again. Contact your representative and senators using the information above. Ask for full funding of U.S. financial contributions to the UN and tell why the UN is important to you.

### How to Contact Your Member of Congress

Let our two senators and your representative know what you think of the United Nations!

**Senator Charles Grassley**  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3744  
[www.grassley.senate.gov/contact](http://www.grassley.senate.gov/contact)

**Senator Joni Ernst**  
111 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3744  
[www.ernst.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/email-Joni](http://www.ernst.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/email-Joni)

**District 1: Representative Abby Finkenauer**  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

**District 2: Representative Dave Loebsack**  
1527 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-6576  
<https://Loebsack.house.gov/forms/writeyourrep/>

**District 3: Representative Cindy Axne**  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

**District 4: Representative Steve King**  
2210 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4426  
<https://steveking.house.gov/>

### Topics for your Letters and Conversations

First and foremost, advocate for full funding of the UN and its specialized agencies.

Other topics might be:

1. Advocate for the U.S. return to the Human Rights Council.

2. Advocate for the U.S. remaining in the Paris Climate Agreement, where we are now the only country that has said it will withdraw out of a total of 195 signatories.