

‘Critical concern’

Your excellent editorial [“Climate change a growing challenge for Trump,” Thursday] points out the absurdity of anyone thinking that climate change is a hoax created by China — even Trump’s fossil-fuel-connected nominees carefully asserted under oath that climate change is real, not a hoax. The vast majority of Americans support the Paris climate accord, are fed up with Congress’ climate inaction, and know it’s not a hoax.

Climate change has been well-documented for so long, that almost exactly 28 years ago, on Jan. 9, 1989, President Ronald Reagan wrote in a letter to House Speaker Jim Wright and Vice President George H. W. Bush: “Because changes in the earth’s natural systems can have tremendous economic and social effects, global climate change is becoming a critical concern.” Reagan wasn’t an alarmist when he called it critical, and climate activists aren’t alarmists now.

To show proper respect for the office of president, Trump must stick to straight talk only. And his first presidential act should be to send climate legislation to Congress for it to enact.

It would be most appropriate if he sent them climate legislation proposed by Ronald Reagan’s Secretary of State George Shultz.

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