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PRESS RELEASE

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11,000 Scientists Join Congressman Blumenauer in Declaring a Climate Emergency

Portland, Oregon – Today, Congressman Earl Blumenauer, former vice-chair of the House Select Committee on Global Warming, applauded the efforts of a global coalition of more than 11,000 scientists led by Dr. William Ripple and Christopher Wolf of Oregon State University to declare a climate emergency. These scientists, representing 153 countries around the world, published a paper highlighting the urgent need for bold action and change in human activity to reverse the life-threatening impacts of global climate change, classifying the crisis as an emergency.

Earlier this year, Congressman Blumenauer, along with Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Senator Bernie Sanders introduced a bicameral, concurrent Congressional resolution that would declare a climate emergency.

“To address the climate crisis, we must tell the truth about the nature of this threat, and who better to hear that from than the experts working to understand this every day,” **said Congressman Blumenauer**. “I applaud Dr. Ripple and the global coalition of scientists who are bringing much needed attention to the issue of climate change. Once again, Oregon is leading the way in the fight for our planet, but the federal government must take real action as well.

Blumenauer continued, “I, along with Congresswoman Ocasio Cortez and Senator Sanders, said months ago with our resolution that the climate crisis is an emergency, we are running out of time, and we need bold action now to solve it. If devastating weather extremes, rising sea levels, and mobilization from activists around the globe isn’t enough incentive for Congress to act on the climate emergency, what is?”

“Despite 40 years of major global negotiations, we have continued to conduct business as usual and have failed to address this crisis,” **said Dr. Ripple, distinguished professor of ecology in the OSU College of Forestry**. “Climate change has arrived and is accelerating faster than many scientists expected. The climate emergency resolution introduced by Congressman Blumenauer, Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez, and Senator Sanders is illustrative of the type of urgency needed to address this crisis. We welcome their leadership and call on Congress to act swiftly to reverse course for the sake of future generations.”

This resolution, which was cosponsored by 80 House Members, 6 Senators, and endorsed by 14 independent organizations, urgently demands a national mobilization to “halt, reverse, mitigate, and prepare for the consequences of the climate emergency and to restore the climate for future generations.”