

Samantha Lee (ssammanthha@gmail.com), ssammanthha, Arroyo High School (San Lorenzo, CA)

VIDEO

In my opinion, the most important component of the Green New Deal is the second part of it: how to address the shift from an economy reliant on fossil fuels to a circular and clean economy *without* adversely affecting those most at risk. When it comes to adding or removing components, I think that the Green New Deal as it is already encompasses all of the major climate issues we need to address, and is very thorough in its goals. Investment in and expansion of the renewable energy industry is definitely one of the issues at the top of my list; from there, we can work on dismantling the fossil fuel industry, switching and training workers for green jobs, and creating better communities and cities.

LETTER

Dear Senator Feinstein,

My name is Samantha and I am a junior from San Leandro, across the bay from San Francisco. I am writing to express my support of the Green New Deal and hope that you will reconsider your stance on this issue.

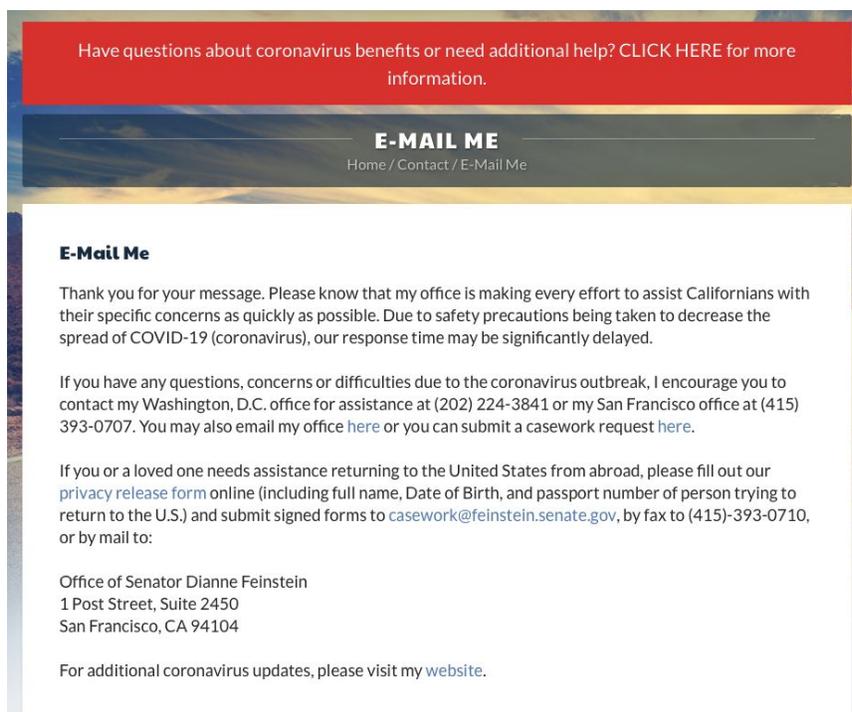
I first want to start off by saying that I do appreciate your actions to curb climate change and greenhouse gas emissions, as well as your protection of ecosystems in the United States. I am glad that I have officials representing me that are understanding of the severity of climate change and are taking actions to combat it.

However, I am also well aware that you have not supported the Green New Deal in the past, citing its inability to pass in the Senate. Even if it would likely not pass, it is still important that we advocate for it and foster discussion around climate change and its ties to racial and economic justice. Climate change is not an issue where its solutions can be watered down, half-fulfilled, or denied upfront. It needs to be addressed as a whole, and the Green New Deal does just that--it confronts and supports the transition to a cleaner economy in ways that are actionable. I support the Green New Deal because it acknowledges the possible effects of the Green New Deal on those that would be impacted by the phasing out of the fossil fuel industry; it fights to create better transportation and housing for communities; and even encourages the stewardship of ecosystems, as you have fought for before.

When it comes to something like this that threatens the existence of humankind, it can no longer continue to be a bipartisan disagreement, but a race to take the actions that are necessary. We need to support solutions that will match the enormity of the situation at hand, even if our goals can seem preposterous to achieve; I believe that, as a senator, you do have the power to rally support around this cause, even on the side where it may not be so well accepted.

In the end--and this is in no way an insult--your generation will not be the one bearing the brunt of the climate change crisis. I, along with millions of young adults globally, will need to be tasked with combating and surviving through the changes to come--that is, unless officials like you are willing to step up and confront the issue head-on. Climate change is already claiming lives, forcing migrations, and so forth. As a senator of California, you are likely familiar with our environmental crises over the past few years. Last month, I read a quote that made me consider just how strongly we need to act: "I don't need a time machine to see climate change--all I need is a window." The day that I woke up to the entire world around me bathed in orange, with the air smothered by smoke and ash, was the day that I realized climate change is not something that we can be moderate about. We cannot err on the side of caution in a time like this.

Best,
Samantha



Have questions about coronavirus benefits or need additional help? [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

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Thank you for your message. Please know that my office is making every effort to assist Californians with their specific concerns as quickly as possible. Due to safety precautions being taken to decrease the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus), our response time may be significantly delayed.

If you have any questions, concerns or difficulties due to the coronavirus outbreak, I encourage you to contact my Washington, D.C. office for assistance at (202) 224-3841 or my San Francisco office at (415) 393-0707. You may also email my office [here](#) or you can submit a casework request [here](#).

If you or a loved one needs assistance returning to the United States from abroad, please fill out our [privacy release form](#) online (including full name, Date of Birth, and passport number of person trying to return to the U.S.) and submit signed forms to casework@feinstein.senate.gov, by fax to (415)-393-0710, or by mail to:

Office of Senator Dianne Feinstein
1 Post Street, Suite 2450
San Francisco, CA 94104

For additional coronavirus updates, please visit my [website](#).

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greenmantha today, i wrote a letter to California Senator Dianna Feinstein, and honestly, i feel extremely empowered. my letter went into the impacts of the Green New Deal and how imperative it is that we take the boldest actions possible in this time--here is the ending paragraph of the letter.

@turninggreenorg #PGC2020

25 seconds ago

