Our request of Congress is simple: that they put America on a course to cut carbon emissions 80% by the middle of the century.

This sounds like a lot, but in fact, it’s less than a two percent reduction a year. It won’t be easy; it will take commitment and resources to switch from fossil fuels to new sources of energy. But it needs to be done: the latest science tells us that temperatures are increasing faster than expected, and the results are showing up in melting ice caps, intensifying storms, and rising sea levels.

Fortunately, some members of Congress are starting to understand the pressure we’re under. In fact, there are currently five bills before our federal legislatures that address Climate Change in some way. Unfortunately, some of those bills may not go far enough to address the issue as fully as scientists tell us they should. We must do whatever we can to make sure that Congress commits to nothing less than an 80% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2050. We can do that – and we will do that! – with a combination of

1. Individual action
2. Political will

And we have one very important factor in our favor: And that is this: when living in a democratic nation, once we get enough of the former, the latter always and surely follows! You have started down the first path just by attending this event. You are demonstrating that you are willing to Step it Up. Now let’s keep going until we succeed in the second as well by in compelling Congress to Step it Up along with us!