

**RESOLUTION on the Climate Emergency**  
**Requested by the League of Women Voters of Delaware County for Adoption**  
**by the**  
**Delaware County Sustainability Commission**

**Whereas**, an environmental condition adversely affecting Earth and its inhabitants once referred to as “climate change” has advanced to become a *climate emergency* including:

Ocean acidification, damage to marine ecosystems and food sources, and a rise in sea levels resulting in flooding and the displacement of coastal businesses and residences;

Extreme weather events, including extremes of temperature as well as increasingly devastating storms and wildfires, causing severe harm to America’s agriculture, forestry and tourism industries;

Adverse impacts on human health, as well as the introduction of new vectors for infectious disease, and

Species extinctions and related threats to biodiversity, with accompanying grave impacts on food and water security, economic security, and social-emotional wellbeing, and

**Whereas**, the world’s leading climate scientists predict that the climate crisis will catastrophically intensify if prompt public action is not taken through public policy and legislation to curb emissions, and remove atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> through natural and technological sequestration, and

**Whereas**, the climate crisis disproportionately afflicts the most vulnerable among us: members of indigenous nations, people of color, rural and coastal communities and low-income households in general—all of whom have fewer resources to cope with the common consequences of climate change, such as property damage, displacement, job loss, and health problems, and

**Whereas**, prompt and robust mobilization of civil society acting in concert with all levels of government to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions is necessary to avert, or even to mitigate, the progressive and increasingly catastrophic deterioration of Earth’s environment and with it, massive societal disruption;

**Therefore, be it resolved,**

We, the Delaware County Sustainability Commission, declare a Climate Emergency and will take action, as appropriate, to address this crisis within our communities. We further resolve to encourage the Delaware County Council to do the same.