

The spread of COVID-19 has touched almost all communities in the United States and the world. It has killed tens of thousands of people and has locked down most nations. Everyone is so preoccupied and focused on the pandemic that we've forgotten about a more serious threat to mankind: climate change.

Last year was the second warmest year on record, with wildfires covering the West coast. With the public's attention focused on COVID-19, the Trump administration weakened environmental rules, allowing industry to self-regulate its air and water pollution. Fuel efficiency standards were stalled, which led to increased greenhouse gas emissions. We must keep the pressure on for environmental protections at the state and federal levels, despite the COVID-19 crisis.

The most encouraging response to COVID-19 has been the mutual aid from person to person, it shows that we share a common societal bond. If we can all come together as a society, then we can reach a solution together. Once COVID-19 is overcome, which might be a while, our response to the pandemic must advise us how to move ahead and confront climate change.