

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## House Resolution 189

The Oct. 16 opinion piece "Random Thoughts" gives space to briefly describe macroeconomic theory as a radical method for a government to buy what it wants. I'd like to suggest a non-radical method that can provide vulnerable people around the world with nutrition they need: U.S. maternal/child nutrition assistance.

Today, there are 151 million malnourished children under the age of 5 in the world. One of the most effective ways to fight malnutrition is to focus on quality maternal and child nutrition in the first 1,000 days of life [from pregnancy to a child's second birthday]. A maternal/child focus has immense impacts on long-term economic outcomes for both families and the countries they live in.

House Resolution 189 is a bipartisan statement outlining best ways for providing nutrition for mothers and babies in deepest poverty. Representatives Ann Wagner and Lacy Clay have signed it, but I'm concerned that congressional attention on Turkey and a looming impeachment may prevent the passage of this resolution. As a member of the Foreign Affairs committee, Congresswoman Wagner can help get it passed. With 126 bipartisan House co-sponsors agreeing on best practices to help moms and babies globally, this resolution deserves to be passed without delay.

*Cynthia Changyit Levin*

## Regarding 'False environmental predictions'

In scientific terms, Walter E. Williams ["False environmental predictions," Oct. 16] and the Competitive Research Institute are unreliable judges of the global environment, and acceptance of their confused views would be extremely dangerous for our future.

The human population, only about 1 million total 11,000 years ago has grown explosively to 7.7 billion, with an additional 2.2 billion net projected over the next 30 years. About 800 million people go to bed hungry every day. Eight people, six of them in the U.S., possess as much wealth as the 3.6 billion poorest among us. We are unsustainably consuming about 175% of the world's total sustainable productivity [Global Footprint Network, [www.gfn.org](http://www.gfn.org)].

If everyone in the world were consuming at the level of the U.S. and Western Europe, it would take three to four extra planets to sustain us, yet the rich nations seem only to want to become richer.

Over the next few decades, about 1 million of the estimated 12 million species on Earth are likely to disappear within the next few decades, and yet they, individually and collectively, make all life, including ours, possible; we do not know when their loss will lead to widespread collapse. Farms and pastures occupy 40% of the Earth's surface.

Global warming, understood since the 1890s, has warmed the Earth by nearly 2° F already, continuing to increase, with many consequences worldwide. Only international collaboration can limit these increases, and yet our collective response so far has been weak. To ignore what's going on in the world with carefully contrived arguments would be tantamount to saying 99%-plus of the scientists in the world agree that a giant meteorite is going to hit your house by the holidays, and then going ahead and ignoring the consensus in favor of arguments that simply dance around history and fact.

*Peter H. Raven*

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## In response to the Oct. 16 column "False Environmental Predictions"

by Walter E. Williams, I have a suggested reading list of current climate science reports for him and this magazine's audience. These reports are signed by all major U.S. federal agencies and are available by searching the internet for "scientific consensus on climate change."

There are 13 federal agencies that have concluded that human-caused climate change is real. The 13 agencies are the departments of Commerce, Defense, Agriculture, Interior, Energy, State and Transportation as well as the United States Agency for International Development, National Science Foundation, Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Smithsonian and NASA.

The fact that we have heat-trapping gases accumulating in the atmosphere has been well documented. The "Green-

House Effect" is happening in the Earth's atmosphere as heat-trapping gases have a long residence life; these gases have been accumulating since the industrial revolution.

As of 2019, 97% of the climate scientists – experts from around the world – support human-caused climate change.

Efforts to dissuade the use of current scientific data is done for the purpose of supporting the financial agenda of some industries. It is estimated that more than 90% of papers skeptical on climate change originate from right-wing think tanks that choose to ignore the facts.

*Dale Markley*

## In regard to Walter E. Williams

I read with interest the Letters To The Editor in the Oct 23 issue of West Newsmagazine excoriating Mr. Walter E. Williams. In the past I have observed, and written a letter myself, addressing Mr. Williams decidedly right-wing view of the world. Although the Newsmagazine Network makes no claim to be "fair and balanced," I believe the readers deserve some semblance of what appears to be a newspaper having at least a modicum of impartiality. Perhaps you could alternate Mr. Williams' column with someone who has not drunk from the Ayn Rand Kool Aid well.

*Bryce Frazier*

## Responding to "An entrepreneurial mindset is critical for our future"

Regarding the letter from Craig Felzien [Oct. 23] on the virtues of entrepreneurship: Mr. Felzien is to be applauded for his progressive thinking and efforts at Lindenwood. America is a great country because of its entrepreneurs. The SCORE [Service Corps of Retired Executives] Association is a national nonprofit business organization of ten thousand retired and semi-retired men and women who provide free business advice and mentoring to small businesses and start-ups. SCORE is a resource partner with the SBA.

SCORE volunteers are proud to be on the team with Lindenwood and many others in moving entrepreneurship forward.

*Bob Boles*

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