

Letter forwarded from fisherman Ted Patz who is invited to come to share and hear about our mission

Dear Friends,

This week, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee unanimously passed the [Save Our Seas Act](#), a bipartisan bill Senator Dan Sullivan, Senator Cory Booker, and I authored to begin tackling the global marine debris crisis. This is the second stage of Senate Oceans Caucus work that begin with our successes on pirate fishing treaties and legislation. Our marine debris bill will open up bipartisan work on plastic debris affecting coastal ecosystems and communities around the world and [right here in Rhode Island](#). After the bill was approved in the Commerce Committee, Dan and I sat down to talk about ocean debris' effects on Rhode Island and his home state of Alaska, and how the Save Our Seas Act can help foster international cooperation to address and mitigate the problem. You can watch our 9-minute-long video [here](#), if you like.

For my [163rd "Time to Wake Up" speech](#) on Wednesday, I talked about President Trump's sham of an executive order to roll back climate protections, and showed how far away it is from the wishes of the American people. The latest polling shows Americans all over the country overwhelmingly believe that climate change is real and support actions to address it -- majorities in every county and congressional district. Now is not the time for President Trump to try unwinding the Clean Power Plan or, like EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt did recently, to [withdraw a request for information](#) from the oil and gas industry regarding methane emissions. (Rest assured, my Democratic colleagues and I called him out on that.)

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Our country is supposed to be a "city on a hill," not a banana republic run by the climate-denying fossil fuel industry. It's time for America to lead on climate. If you agree, I hope you'll consider joining the upcoming [science marches](#) (April 22) and [climate marches](#) (April 29) wherever you can. Mark your calendars!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sheldon".

U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse

P.S. Here's a great piece on the need for a [social cost of carbon](#) (which the President tried to rescind last week) from the Wall Street Journal. Yes – *that* Wall Street Journal!