U.S. Senate Committee On The Budget Chair, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse



03.22.23

ICYMI: BUDGET COMMITTEE'S HEARING ON "RISKY BUSINESS: HOW CLIMATE CHANGE IS CHANGING INSURANCE MARKETS"

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WITNESS STATEMENTS

"Just as the US economy was overexposed to mortgage risk in 2008, the economy today is overexposed to climate risk.

Recent years have seen weather events drive up claim's costs for businesses, communities, and governments — increasing the need for real-time catastrophe monitoring, instant response, and rapid assessment of damage."

Eric Andersen, President, Aon

"Insurance market withdrawals can cause ripple effects that endanger entire communities and create a downward spiral that's difficult to emerge from.

This could happen gradually, but it's possible for weakened markets to collapse quickly through a crisis of confidence triggered by one event."

Nancy Watkins,
Principal & Consulting Actuary, Milliman



"Unlike the chances of a fire in a given city, climate risk is better described by the title of the latest Oscar winner: It's 'Everything, Everywhere, All at Once.' Climate change is simultaneously inducing heightened risk of flood, storm damage, chronic inundation, drought, excessive heat, and wildfires.

There is no avoiding the fact that the increasing risk of large, global loss events will mean higher costs for consumers."

Dr. Benjamin Keys,
Professor of Real Estate, Wharton School,
University of Pennsylvania

HIGHLIGHTS

Featured Member: Senator Van Hollen

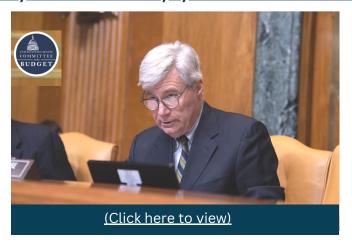
The goal is to understand the financial risk of climate change



<u>Featured Witness: Dr. Benjamin Keys</u> Climate risk is "Everything Everywhere All at Once"



<u>Highlights from Cross-Examination</u> <u>Do you stand by your statement?</u>



PRESS COVERAGE

WHITEHOUSE PLANS CLIMATE HEARING IN WAKE OF U.N. REPORT: E&E NEWS BY: EMMA DUMAIN - 3/21/2023

"I WILL CONTINUE TO HOLD HEARINGS EXAMINING THE DIFFERENT GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AND SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY THREATENED BY CLIMATE CHANGE," WHITEHOUSE SAID. "AN HONEST ASSESSMENT OF THOSE COSTS AND RISKS COULD HELP RESTORE SOME MEASURE OF BIPARTISANSHIP AND A DURABLE PATH TOWARDS CLIMATE SAFETY."

THE HEARING SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY — TITLED "RISKY BUSINESS: HOW CLIMATE CHANGE IS CHANGING INSURANCE MARKETS" — IS THE FOURTH IN WHITEHOUSE'S SERIES LINKING GLOBAL WARMING TO FINANCIAL COLLAPSE.

COMMITTEE DEMOCRATS WILL HEAR TESTIMONY FROM NANCY WATKINS, A PRINCIPAL AND CONSULTING ACTUARY WITH MILLIMAN, WHO SPECIALIZES IN CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND CATASTROPHIC PROPERTY RISK."



PHOTOS











