



**04.26.23**

# **ICYMI: BUDGET COMMITTEE'S HEARING "UNDER THE WEATHER: DIAGNOSING THE HEALTH COSTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE"**

## **Contents**

1- Witness  
Statements

2- Highlights

3- Press Coverage

4- Photos



# WITNESS STATEMENTS

**"Urban heat islands are hyperlocal pockets of elevated temperatures within a city that can exacerbate adverse health outcomes for residents with diabetes, cardiovascular conditions and respiratory health challenges.**

**Residents inside Baltimore's urban heat islands are more likely to: be people of color, have lower-incomes, and live shorter lives."**

**The Honorable Stephanie Smith, Esq.  
Member of the House of Delegates, District 45  
Baltimore City, Maryland**



**"Climate change is a threat multiplier with health impacts happening through a variety of mechanisms including worsening temperature extremes, wildfires, coastal storms, spikes in air pollution, and vector borne diseases, as well as disruptions to supply chains, safe housing, safe working conditions, safe water, nutrition, and health care."**

**Katelyn Moretti, MD ScM  
Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine  
Brown University Emergency Medicine**



**"Climate-induced temperature changes will have dramatic impacts on human life.**

**The United States is projected to see its temperature-related mortality risk increase by 10 deaths for every 100,000 people by 2100, on par with the U.S. fatality rate from auto accidents today. "**

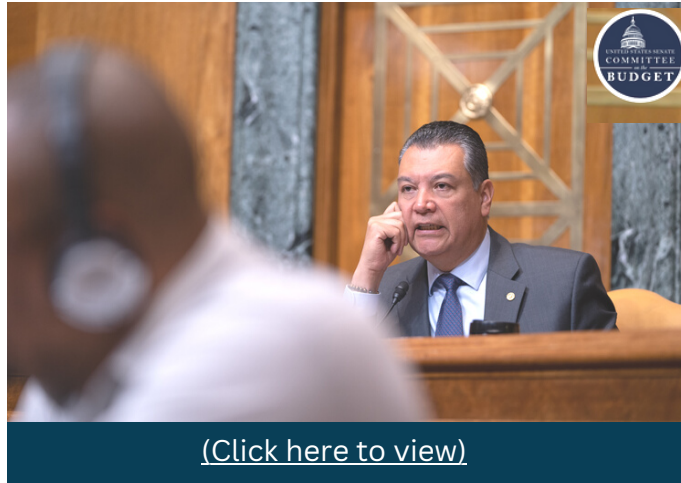
**Dr. Michael Greenstone  
Milton Friedman Distinguished Service Professor  
Department of Economics, University of Chicago**



# HIGHLIGHTS

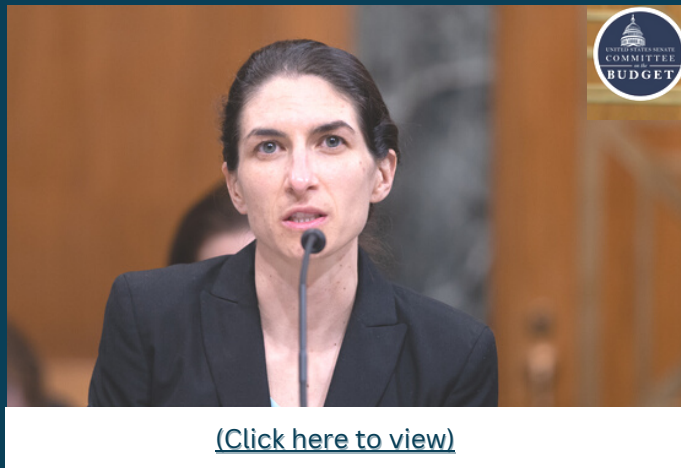
## **Featured Member: Senator Padilla**

Heat-related illness is rising and affecting our farm laborers



## **Featured Witness: Dr. Katelyn Moretti**

Climate change affects our health in direct AND indirect ways



## **Highlights from Chairman Whitehouse**

Health care costs related to climate change strain the pocketbooks of American families



# **PRESS COVERAGE**

## **WHITEHOUSE SETS HEARING ON CLIMATE CHANGE, HEALTH COSTS: E&E NEWS BY: EMMA DUMAIN – 4/25/2023**

THE SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A HEARING WEDNESDAY FOCUSING ON GLOBAL WARMING'S CONSEQUENCES ON HEALTH CARE COSTS.

THE HEARING — THE SIXTH DEALING WITH CLIMATE FROM THE COMMITTEE THIS YEAR — IS TITLED "UNDER THE WEATHER: DIAGNOSING THE HEALTH CARE COSTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE." THE PANEL WILL EXPLORE THE ISSUE FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF "WORKERS, FAMILIES AND THE FEDERAL BUDGET," ACCORDING TO A PRESS RELEASE FROM THE COMMITTEE ANNOUNCING THE EVENT.

"CLIMATE CHANGE IS CAUSING HIGHER TEMPERATURES, MORE EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS, FLOODING IN SOME AREAS AND SEVERE DROUGHT IN OTHERS, AND MORE INTENSE WILDFIRES—ALL OF WHICH AFFECT PUBLIC HEALTH OUTCOMES," THE PRESS RELEASE READS.

"WITH HIGHER RATES OF CARDIOVASCULAR AND RESPIRATORY DISEASE NATIONWIDE, AND BETWEEN DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENTS, EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS, PRESCRIPTION DRUGS, AND REHABILITATION AND HOME HEALTH SUPPORT, THE COSTS OF CLIMATE-RELATED HEALTH CARE ARE ESTIMATED TO TOP \$820 BILLION ANNUALLY."

UNDER COMMITTEE CHAIR SHELDON WHITEHOUSE (D-R.I.), EARLIER HEARINGS HAVE FOCUSED ON THE CLIMATE IMPACTS ON HOUSING MARKETS AND FLOOD INSURANCE, THE COSTS OF WILDFIRE MITIGATION AND RECOVERY AND THE STABILITY OF THE FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRY.

# PHOTOS

