

Lou Mansolillo

From: Katrina Williams
Sent: Tuesday, 06 FEB 2024
To: Lou Mansolillo
Subject: H7295 – I Support

Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the hearing today; though, I was in attendance to present an oral testimony regarding a previous submission of the act contained within H7295. Some of the committee members may even recall the performance as I had my two very young children with me during testimony. Those same two lovely children are the reasons for my absence today as we have a previous homeschool group obligation. I hope my testimony will be accepted and my absence excused.

I would direct the committee's attention to the language found on both pages 6 and 12 of the Congressional Mandated Research Plan and an Initial Research Governance Framework Related to Solar Radiation Modification, namely the following, "Verifying a deployment – whether carried out covertly or openly – over the short- and long-term would occur by measuring and monitoring the characteristics of the deployment, while assessing the intended and unintended physical, environmental, and societal outcomes." This language creates strong feelings of discomfort as it appears that if this type of program were to be implemented, experiments upon the population at large could be conducted without the promised oversight and "transparency," frequently mentioned within the document. Moreover, and of particular concern are the "unintended physical" consequences as an aspect of the actual experimentation. No one definitively knows the negative physical results that will occur to our environment or our bodies if this program gains traction and moves forward. I have to break with the formality a bit and ask the obvious question. Let's be honest here, polluting to mitigate the effects of previous pollution, does that seem like a sound plan?

Furthermore, the document spends a great deal of verbiage touting the importance of climate models, comparing said models, and increasing trust in modeling experiments while at the same time admitting that modeling global climatic results from SRM fall far short of being able to accurately predict basically anything. On page 18, "In many cases, new discoveries, or more sophisticated representations of physical processes in climate models, lead initially to increased uncertainty." Perhaps, most tellingly on the same page, "Dramatic enhancement in the certainty of our ability to simulate Earth system processes is a long-range challenge."

Here is what I encourage as the takeaway for the committee. We, as Rhode Islanders, do NOT consent to SRM experiments upon us whether "transparent" or "covert" or otherwise. The Feds have no idea of the short- or long-term effects this type of INTENTIONAL polluting our atmosphere, by their own admission! That ignorance does not give them the right to experiment atmospherically, which then precipitates upon our bodies, our land, and our waters. Historically, Rhode Island has an independent spirit and follows our own directives. In keeping with that tradition, make the honorable decision and do NOT let the federal government experiment on your constituency, you or your families. Say yes to H7295 and protect all of us from non-consensual government experimentation.

Thank you for your time.