

Exhausted! Workers Confront Extreme Heat and Wildfire Smoke in California

Climate Resolve is pleased to publish [Exhausted! Workers Confront Extreme Heat and Wildfire Smoke in California](#), an in-depth report on how climate change is impacting workers in the Golden State.

The report examines existing California policies and practices – as well as a review of the latest research on the economic, physical, and psychological impacts of working in extreme conditions. The report offers eighteen on-point recommendations on how to better protect California’s essential workers. Those recommendations are listed below.

“Workers must have access to cool environments, water to stay hydrated, proper ventilation, and other safety measures if we want goods delivered and food to remain accessible in the United States,” observed Marc Futernick M.D., Managing Editor of The Journal of Climate Change and Health.

The report was underwritten by [Resilient Cities Catalyst](#) and the [Conrad N. Hilton Foundation](#) through the [California Resilience Partnership](#). Click [here](#) to read the full report.

▶▶ PROTECTING INDOOR & OUTDOOR WORKERS

1. **Create new insurance products for hazard pay and unworkable conditions**
2. **Design and build large-scale cooling projects in the built environment**
3. **Make home a safe haven**
4. **State agencies must coordinate their approach on extreme heat**
5. **Cal/OSHA must be sufficiently resourced in both funds and technical support**
6. **Improve communication on drinking-water**
7. **Expand independent monitoring**
8. **Fix Cal/OSHA’s communications problem**
9. **Environmental organizations must prioritize worker health and safety**
10. **Develop a Cal/OSHA database on heat-related workplace incidents**
11. **Improve air quality monitoring at the workplace**
12. **Fund organizations to assist workers**

▶▶ SPECIFICALLY PROTECTING OUTDOOR WORKERS

13. **Provide clean air refuges during wildfire smoke events**
14. **Make growers liable**

▶▶ SPECIFICALLY PROTECTING INDOOR WORKERS

15. **Prioritize adoption of the Indoor Heat Illness Prevention Standard**
16. **Update the California Building Code to protect warehouse workers**
17. **Update international standards to include real-time indoor temperature and humidity monitoring**
18. **Prioritize research into worker productivity and absenteeism**