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## Center for Biological Diversity Action Fund, Sunrise Movement Las Vegas endorse Amy Vilela for Congress

LAS VEGAS—Amy Vilela—Democratic candidate for Nevada’s First Congressional District—announced endorsements from The Center for Biological Diversity Action Fund and Sunrise Movement Las Vegas on Wednesday, coinciding with the release of the insurgent candidate’s bold [climate-justice-driven vision](#) for the future of Las Vegas.

"We are thrilled to endorse and throw our full support behind Amy Vilela for Congress," **Patrick Donnelly, Nevada Political Director with the Center for Biological Diversity Action Fund said.** "Amy has put forward a bold, transformational agenda to fight the climate crisis and change the systems that oppress people and the environment. With Tahoe burning and Lake Mead drying up, the climate crisis is barreling down on us with frightening speed. We need big change in Washington to ensure a livable future for the next generation. The incumbent isn't acting with the urgency that our current situation demands, and that's why we need someone like Amy, who has a vision for how to save life on earth."

"The time for bold action for intersectional justice is long overdue for the people of Nevada," **Dexter Lim, Hub Coordinator for Sunrise Movement Las Vegas said.** "Half of our state burns, the other half bakes, and all of us face an end to the precious water of the Colorado River that allows us to live in this great desert. The Sunrise Movement Vegas Hub was founded on the principle that a better world is possible, and to achieve that, our unsustainable status quo must change. Amy Vilela’s candidacy promises to work better for the people and the planet, not for the profits. Sunrise Vegas is proud to endorse Amy Vilela for Nevada Congressional District 1, so that we can bring the compassion and change to Washington needed to create a better country for not just ourselves, but for those who will come after us."

"Across the country, homes are being threatened, and people’s lives and livelihoods are at risk—especially in our most vulnerable communities. Despite that, far too many Democratic members of Congress representing districts like ours still refuse to take the bold steps necessary to protect against the devastation of the climate crisis," **Vilela said.** "Rather than endless land giveaways to greedy and unchecked developers, our leaders in Las Vegas should be working to build a model for the rest of the country of how a diverse, working-class city can fight against the climate crisis in a way that centers social, economic, and racial justice. The people of Vegas deserve an end to the fossil fuel industry, an end to racist environmental policy, and reckless sprawl, and demand the passage of a Green New Deal."

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**Amy Vilela** grew up in poverty, relying on programs like WIC and SNAP in order to make ends meet as a single-mother. She took classes at night while working multiple jobs to become the first in her family to earn a degree. She became a national advocate for Medicare for All after her daughter Shalynne died at the hands of our nation’s



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profit-driven healthcare system. After working her way up to become a CFO, Amy has since retooled her professional experience to provide vital campaign services to other progressive candidates. In 2020, serving as a State Co-chair, Amy led the charge for Bernie Sanders' landslide victory in the Nevada caucuses.

Amy and her family first moved to Nevada when her husband, Major David Vilela, was transferred to Creech Air Force Base. If elected, she would be the first ever active duty military spouse to serve in Congress.