Dear President Obama,

In the effort to create effective climate change legislation, perhaps our greatest impediment is the knowledge gap between scientists and the American public.

Confused by misinformation and talk of a controversy, many Americans lack a clear understanding of the problem and its consequences. Without sufficient knowledge about the seriousness and urgency of dealing with global warming, the public will not support strong action against it.

And without the support of their constituents, representatives and senators are also unlikely to make wise choices on climate change legislation.

You can use your powerful position and popularity with the public to educate Americans. A “State of the Climate” address on prime-time national television would bring much-needed information to millions of citizens.

When America is under attack by a foreign country, it is the government’s responsibility to inform and protect our people. We are now faced by a threat more formidable than that posed by any army, but our citizens are inadequately informed and protected. Why? Because we have no suitable precedent to look to for the process of dealing with climate change.

The most efficient way to bolster support from Americans for effective climate action is to make them informed citizens. It is your duty as the head of state to let Americans know what approaches. Inadequately explaining and publicizing the issue of global warming is a failure to protect the American people.

Please do present a “State of the Climate” address soon!

Sincerely,