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UPDATE: Climate plans of the Democratic presidential candidates

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Seven candidates will engage in the PBS NewsHour & POLITICO Democratic Debate in Los Angeles. All candidates say they would recommit to the Paris climate agreement and all plans support development of clean, renewable energy and assistance for communities most affected by the shift away from fossil fuels. All in the debate have signed a pledge refusing campaign contributions from the fossil fuel industry.

KEY

Highlights from the candidates' climate plans

Countering global warming will be a heavy lift, requiring trillions of dollars, much of which would be supplied by fossil fuel industries, the primary contributors to anthropogenic greenhouse gases. In this graphic, program costs are proportional to the volumes of gas contained by the balloons.

The goal

Net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 would limit global warming to 1.5C over preindustrial temperatures, avoiding the worst effects of climate change, such as extreme alterations to weather patterns, ecosystems, economies and societies, according to the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Price tag for the plan

The candidate's estimate for the amount of federal spending needed to reach "zero by 2050."

The Green New Deal

G Candidate fully or strongly supports the Green New Deal

G Candidate sees GND as "a framework" (Biden), or "aspirational" (Klobuchar)

Who will pay?

Most plans put the burden on fossil fuel industries.

Plan includes carbon tax or carbon pricing

Many proposals call for an end to tax breaks and subsidies for fossil fuel industries

POLICIES

Greener buildings

Funding improvements in energy efficiency

Public transit

Increased funding for public transportation infrastructure

Electric vehicles

Support for EVs and charging stations

Foreign aid

International climate aid to help reduce emissions (Sanders) or to help other countries buy American clean-energy products (Warren)

Agricultural improvements

Support for practices that increase storage of carbon in the soil

Research funding

Extra funding for clean energy research at national laboratories.

Carbon capture

Support for technologies that capture/sequester carbon emissions

Electric grid modernization

Preparation for a clean energy system.

Nuclear energy

Research and development of next-generation nuclear power

Other policies

e.g. reinstating CAFE standards.

Overhauling FERC

Transform agency into the "Federal Renewable Energy Commission"

ELIMINATIONS

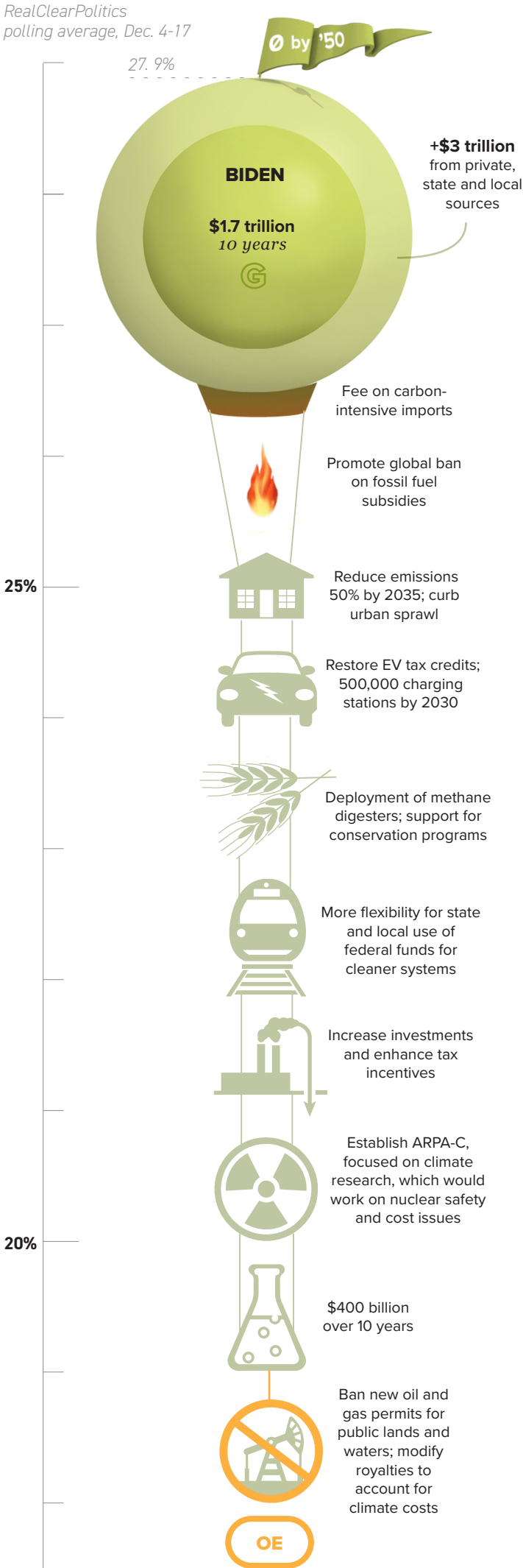
Phasing out or discouraging polluting activities by fossil fuel industries

Fossil fuel activity on public lands

Eliminating, reducing or halting new leases for oil, gas or coal extraction on federal lands or in federal waters.

Prohibitions

Bans on fracking (**Fr**), mountaintop removal (**Mt**), crude oil exports (**OE**) and new fossil fuel infrastructure if clean alternatives exist (**FI**).



20%

70 percent reduction by 2030
Ø by '50
19.7%

SANDERS
\$16.3 trillion
10 years
G

Fee on carbon-intensive imports; raise taxes on carbon polluters and investors

End federal fossil fuel subsidies

\$2.18 trillion for low- and moderate-income families and businesses to weatherize and retrofit

\$85 billion for EV charging stations; \$2.09 trillion to low-income families for EVs

\$410 billion in green agriculture incentives

\$407 billion for electric transit and school buses
\$216 billion to upgrade diesel trucks to electric
\$907 billion for transit

\$200 billion for a Green Climate Fund

\$1.52 trillion on renewable energy; \$852 billion on energy storage; \$526 billion to modernize grid

FREC

- Declare climate crisis a national emergency.
- Federal zero-emission vehicle program



End all new and existing fossil fuel extraction



Phase out nuclear energy



Carbon capture is a "false solution"

Fr Mt FI OE

15%

15.0%

Ø by '50

WARREN
\$3 trillion
10 years
G

Taxes on the wealthy and on corporations; eliminate fossil fuel subsidies

Zero emissions from buildings by 2028

Zero emissions from light-duty vehicles by 2030

\$400 billion for R&D to decarbonize agriculture

Zero emissions from buses by 2030

\$100 billion to countries hit hardest by climate change

\$400 billion over 10 years

Zero emissions from power grid by 2035

FREC

- Create a National Institute of Clean Energy
- Emphasize green manufacturing

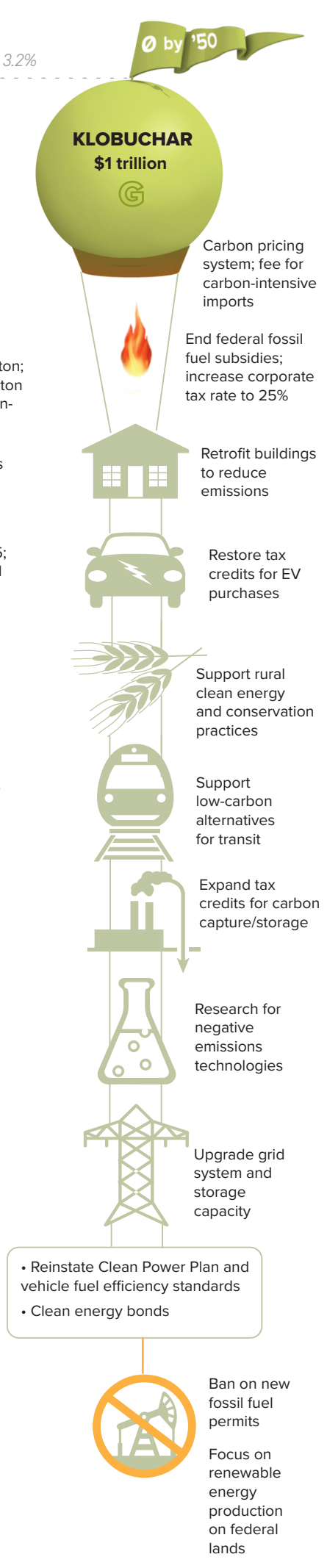
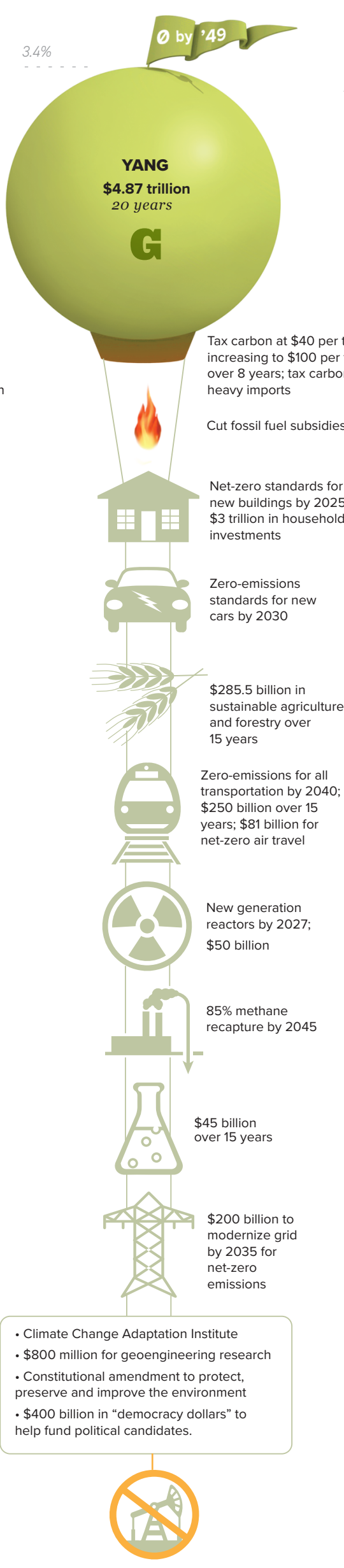
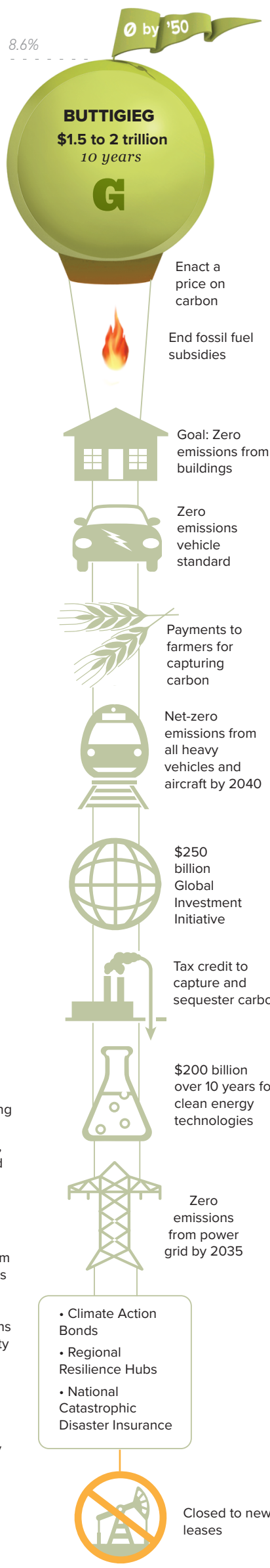
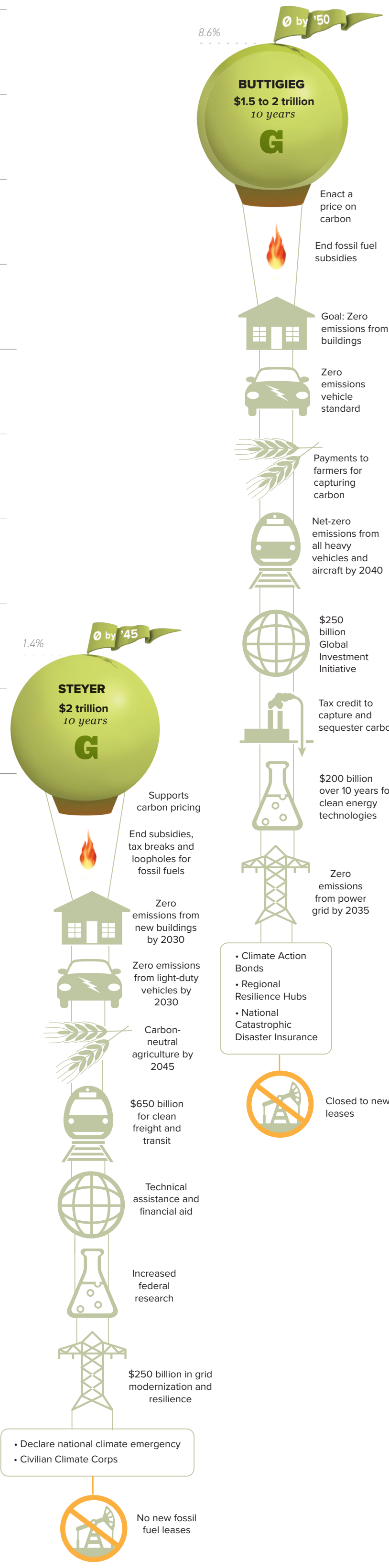


No new fossil fuel leases

10%

5%

0%



Sources: POLITICO Pro reports by Anthony Adragna, Gavin Bade, Zack Colman, Eric Wolff; candidate campaign websites; news reports