

## OUR WORK TO BRING DOWN COSTS, CREATE JOBS & ADDRESS THE CLIMATE CRISIS

House Democrats have passed historic legislation that will lower costs, create good-paying jobs, and put money back in the pockets of Americans as we invest in cleaner, cheaper energy.

With more than 40% of inflation this summer **directly attributable to fossil fuel prices**, our investments in clean energy will lower costs for families that are grappling with high gasoline prices and electric bills. Renewables are now **the cheapest source of power** – and they can greatly reduce our dependence on volatile, expensive fossil fuels. At the same time, expanding clean energy will help us address the rising costs of climate-fueled disasters, which left **over \$152 billion in damages** across the U.S. in 2021 and could cost us **\$2 trillion a year** if we fail to act. Clean energy is the long-term solution to high energy and fuel bills – and it will help address the harmful legacy of pollution in environmental justice communities. As we expand cheap renewables, invest in energy efficiency, and increase electrification, we can reduce Americans' dependence on expensive fossil fuels, all while creating good-paying jobs, growing U.S. manufacturing, and ensuring that our workers lead the world's \$27 trillion clean economy.

Clean energy will bring down costs and create good-paying jobs. It will also enhance our energy security, as we produce affordable energy here in America and insulate our economy from bad actors like Putin who would use their **energy resources as a weapon**. That's why House Democrats are lowering costs and creating jobs by expanding affordable clean energy, fighting price gouging at the gas pump, and addressing the rising costs of climate disasters.

## Signed Into Law

Here are some of the important climate solutions and investments that the 117th Congress delivered to President Biden's desk:

- The Inflation Reduction Act, which includes the largest climate and clean energy investment in U.S. history: roughly \$370 billion to reduce pollution, boost resilience across America, ensure environmental justice for vulnerable communities, address the national security threats posed by extreme weather, and meet our climate goals, while putting money back in the pockets of Americans with electric vehicles and appliances, clean water heaters and cooling systems, and other clean technologies; (Full factsheet)
- The **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**, which invested more than \$50 billion to strengthen community resilience to droughts, heat waves, wildfires, and floods; \$7.5 billion to build 500,000 electric vehicle charging stations across America, the largest such federal investment in history; \$7.5 billion for clean school buses and ferries; historic investments in electric grid resilience (\$62 billion), rail (\$66 billion), transit (\$39 billion), and a program to reduce transportation pollution (\$6.4 billion); and \$55 billion to expand access to clean drinking water for households and businesses; (Full factsheet)
- The **CHIPS & Science Act**, which invests nearly \$55 billion for semiconductor chips, which are increasingly essential components of electric vehicles, building electrification, renewable energy, and electric transmission technologies and authorizes new and expanded climate and clean energy research at DOE, NSF, NASA and NOAA;

- The **American Rescue Plan**, which invested \$100 million for environmental justice grants, including \$50 million to increase air quality monitoring, and \$50 million to identify and address disproportionate environmental or public health harms and risks in vulnerable populations;
- The bipartisan FY22 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which included provisions to help military installations reach net-zero on energy, water, and waste by 2035; ensure military preparedness to the growing threat of wildfire; and expand long-duration energy storage; and
- The **FY22 Appropriations bills**, which included historic funding for key agency climate initiatives, such as the DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; resilience initiatives at DOD; and the EPA's environmental justice efforts.

## Passed By The House

House Democrats passed additional legislation to address climate impacts and lower energy costs, including:

- The **Consumer Fuel Price Gouging Prevention Act**, which would make it illegal to sell consumer fuels at an excessive or exploitative price during an energy emergency, and give the FTC additional power to investigate wholesalers and retailers for price gouging;
- The FY23 Appropriations bills, which increases funding for federal initiatives to advance environmental justice, energy efficiency, and clean energy; invests in resiliency to help military installations adapt to rising sea levels and climate disasters; funds environmental enforcement efforts with a focus on land and water conservation; jumpstarts the transition of the federal fleet to electric and zero emission vehicles; and funds many more climate crisis solutions; (Full factsheet)
- The **FY23 NDAA**, which includes measures to pilot sustainable aviation fuels; strengthen energy security; expand electric vehicle infrastructure; and strengthen resilience and preparedness across military installations; and
- The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2022, with measures to address risks associated with levees; reduce costs for tribal and environmental justice communities; and address the impacts of sea level rise and extreme precipitation.

## **Tracking Our Progress**

In the summer of 2020, Select Committee Democrats unveiled a congressional <u>Climate Crisis</u> <u>Action Plan</u> with 700+ policy recommendations to build a clean energy economy that values workers, centers environmental justice, and meets the challenges of the climate crisis. House Democrats have successfully turned more than 300 of those solutions into law - and passed more than 400 of the plan's recommendations.

Learn more at climatecrisis.house.gov/tracker.

Climate Action Progress			Last Updated: August 17, 2022
House Democrats are turning our recommendations into bills – and turning those bills into law.	305	436	715
	Signed Into Law	Passed In The House	Total Recommendations