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#### Inflation Reduction Act passes now

Alan Fram & Lisa Mascaro 7/28, Fram is reporter at the Associated Press, master’s degree in journalism at University of California, Berkeley, Mascaro is an AP Chief Congressional Correspondent in Washington, D.C., 7/28/2022, “Biden hails economic bill amid signs of broad Dem support”, <https://apnews.com/article/inflation-technology-health-climate-and-environment-c62a6ea7beb1b570fd510336212e49be> - Haoyou

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden hailed a nascent Democratic package of climate, health care and tax initiatives as “a giant step forward” for the country Thursday as congressional leaders began nailing down votes for a campaign-season bill they’ve cast as a boon for voters struggling with inflation.

A day after Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and conservative Sen. Joe Manchin stunned Washington by resurrecting components of a compromise many thought dead, early signs were encouraging for the party.

After Schumer briefed Democratic senators on the 725-page measure, Sen. Chris Van Hollen, D-Md., said lawmakers’ reaction has been “uniformly positive.” And Reps. Tom Suozzi, D-N.Y., and Tom Malinowski, D-N.J., suggested they could back the measure even though it lacks higher federal tax deductions for state and local taxes that they’ve championed in the past.

“We’re taking a giant step forward as a nation,” Biden said at the White House. In a message to lawmakers, he called it a compromise that was “the strongest bill you can pass” to address health care, climate, energy and families’ living costs. “Pass it, pass it for the American people.”

The measure’s phoenix-like rebirth came Wednesday, when Manchin unexpectedly agreed to add tax, energy and environment provisions to a plan he’d earlier said he wanted limited, for now, to prescription drug price curbs and health care assistance. He told reporters Thursday that his talks with Schumer had continued and disputed that he’d reversed himself.

“I’ve never been in reverse in my lifetime and I never walked away,” Manchin, who has COVID-19 and has stayed away from the Capitol, said in a conference call. He also described what he said he’s endured during the past year, when he repeatedly forced Biden and top Democrats to whittle down what was initially a $3.5 trillion proposal.

“No one in their right mind would go through all the protest, harassments” that he faced, Manchin said, after he scuttled a roughly $2 trillion version that the House had passed after he insisted on cuts. He said Democrats “turned the dogs loose” on him two weeks ago after he told Schumer that he wanted a measure limited to health care this month because of inflation fears.

He said he was now backing the expanded bill “because I know I’m not adding to inflation” with the agreement. And he acknowledged that he wants the Mountain Valley Pipeline, which will deliver natural gas from West Virginia to Virginia, to be at “the top of the heap” under permitting procedures that Biden and congressional leaders have pledged to move through Congress this fall.

Loose ends remain in a 50-50 Senate where support from every Democrat — plus Vice President Kamala Harris’ tie-breaking vote — are needed to overcome unanimous Republican opposition that seems preordained. Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., who last year joined Manchin in forcing cuts and changes in larger versions of the plan, declined to tell reporters her stance.

In the narrowly divided House, Democrats can lose no more than four votes and prevail. Rep. Stephanie Murphy, D-Fla., a leader of the centrist House Blue Dog Coalition, said she wouldn’t yet comment on her views. “I don’t think there’s anybody wildly pleased,” said No. 2 House Democratic leader Steny Hoyer of Maryland. “But I think the overwhelming majority think the things that are in it are good things.”

Overall, the emerging package would raise $739 billion over a decade from higher taxes on huge corporations and hedge fund owners, beefed up IRS tax collections and lower federal costs from trimming pharmaceutical prices. It would spend $369 billion on energy and climate change initiatives, what analysts and environmentalists called the largest federal investment ever on clean energy. Another $64 billion would be to extend health insurance subsidies for three years, leaving $306 billion for a modest swipe at massive federal deficits.

The measure is markedly less ambitious than the $3.5 trillion version that stumbled, shrank and ultimately died in Congress last year, largely due to Manchin’s opposition. The new bill lacks many of the party’s initial goals including funds for a more generous child tax credit, paid family leave, expanded Medicare benefits and health care aid for poor families in the dozen states — mostly Republican and in the South — that refused to expand Medicaid under President Barack Obama’s health care law.

Even so, the surprise agreement moves Biden and Democrats to the edge of claiming victory on top priorities like addressing global warming and easing consumers’ health care costs, and boosting levies on the affluent to pay for it.

“It’s bigger than nothing,” said Rep. Mark Pocan, D-Wis., who with other progressives fought vainly last year against Manchin’s efforts to trim the proposal. After Manchin prevailed, “A lot of us thought this was done unless we had more Senate seats, and the fact that we’re able to still get something quite substantial done is impressive.”

Rep. Kurt Schrader, D-Ore., another of his party’s more conservative lawmakers, called the bill’s prescription drug provisions “the most important piece of legislation we’ll vote on in this Congress” besides last fall’s infrastructure measure.

As leaders sold the plan to their members, the government reported that the economy had constricted for a second straight quarter. Worries that a recession was coming only intensified concerns over the nation’s worst bout with inflation since the 1980s.

Both parties know inflation and economic anxiety is on top of voters’ minds. With Republicans expected to win control of the House and perhaps the Senate too, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., turned his fire on Democrats’ measure.

“Our colleagues across the aisle have already completely lost Americans’ trust on the economy, before this reckless taxing and spending spree. Apparently they want to see how much farther they can fall,” he said.

The bill would create tax credits for low- and middle-income buyers of electric vehicles, plus grants and tax breaks to spur clean energy technology and reduce carbon emissions.

Medicare would begin negotiating for the pharmaceuticals it buys, prescription price increases would be limited and Medicare beneficiaries’ out-of-pocket drug costs would be capped at $2,000 annually.

#### But PC and Speed are key

Jacobs 22, [Jennifer and Josh Wingrove, Bloomberg News, “Biden Team Negotiates Fresh Economic Plan as Inflation Antidote” June 17, 2022 <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-06-17/biden-team-negotiates-fresh-economic-plan-as-inflation-antidote> dmr - Maha

**The White House and congressional Democrats are in advanced talks on legislation** that aims **to fight inflation, rein in the deficit and revive parts of** President Joe **Biden’s** stalled **economic agenda**. The contours of a potential deal remain under negotiation, but **the package would likely include capping the price of insulin -- a key medicine for diabetics -- and federal investments in both clean energy and fossil fuels**, according to people briefed on the talks. It would also further reduce the budget deficit and boost taxes on the wealthy, corporations or both, they said. An agreement could come together as soon as next week, two people said, though others were more cautious, noting many details remain to be resolved. Climate provisions are a particularly tricky area, and differences could still scotch a deal, one person said. The people familiar with the talks asked not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the negotiations, in which Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia plays a central role. The president has hinted at a coming agreement**, framing the legislation primarily as a move to cool consumer-price increases**, which unexpectedly accelerated to an annual 8.6% in May. Not Everything “I believe I have the votes to do a number of things,” Biden said Thursday in an interview with the Associated Press, citing capping insulin costs as an example. “We can reduce it to 35 bucks a month and get it done. We have the votes to do it. We’re going to get that done. I can’t get it all done.” **Democrats are desperate for a policy response to inflation**, which is at a four-decade high and, unless curbed, is all but certain to cost them control of the House, Senate or both in November’s midterm elections. Gasoline, a critical component of the American household budget, costs $5 a gallon on average nationwide, according to the AAA motor club, and hit a record earlier this month. Seeking to quell the surge in living costs, the Federal Reserve accelerated its monetary-tightening campaign this week, executing the biggest interest-rate hike since 1994. The moves have driven fresh losses on Wall Street and increased the odds of a recession that would only compound Biden’s political troubles. Biden ordered a record release from the nation’s oil reserves earlier this year to try to curb gasoline prices, but to little effect. Now, he’s looking to help households save money on everyday needs like drugs, utilities and internet access, and by cutting the government’s budget deficit, which reached a record $3.13 trillion in fiscal 2020, during the pandemic. **The president sought to cut drug prices and raise taxes on the wealthy in last year’s** economic plan, called **Build Back Better, which Manchin killed** in December by saying he’d vote against it. Democrats need all 50 of their Senate caucus members to pass legislation in the 100-seat chamber under the so-called budget-reconciliation process, which can bypass a Republican filibuster. The White House for months has refused to publicly comment on any talks with Manchin. The West Virginia senator bristled at White House statements late last year as he, other Democrats and the president’s aides negotiated. The relationship between the White House and Manchin was so damaged in the aftermath of that chapter that some White House officials still avoid saying his name aloud. Other Elements “**The president remains** engaged with Congress. This is an important part of his economic agenda,” Cecilia Rouse, chair of the White House Council of Economic Advisers, said Friday at the White House. Along with the new legislation, Biden has recently touted a provision of the infrastructure law enacted last year that offers full rebates for some home-internet plans for low-income households. He’s also urged Congress to pass separate legislation that would encourage domestic manufacturing of semiconductors to help ease global shortages that have contributed to rising prices for cars and consumer electronics. Together, he argues the measures would provide Americans a counterbalance for higher food and gasoline prices. The administration is also clamoring for new Covid funding from Congress, but as of now there are no plans to roll that into any reconciliation deal, two of the people said. Senate Duo **Biden met** Wednesday with Senate Majority Leader Chuck **Schumer and** House Speaker Nancy **Pelosi**, with the trio **discussing next steps on a fresh bill to pass through the reconciliation process. The White House called the measure their “shared agenda of tackling inflation and lowering prices and transitioning from a historic economic recovery to stable, steady growth”** in a statement on the meeting. The talks have largely narrowed to two men: Schumer and Manchin. The basis for their discussions is legislation the House passed last year that would raise federal revenue by $1.5 trillion over a decade, one person said. White House spokespeople didn’t immediately respond to a request for comment on the talks. A person familiar with **Manchin’s** thinking said he is **continuing to negotiate with Schumer**, and hasn’t set a July 4 deadline for reaching a deal. The person said energy and climate is just one of the issues still being worked on. The House bill included a surtax on wealthy Americans, expanded levies on investments, had a 15% minimum rate for corporations and a tax on stock buybacks. Savings in drug costs could push so-called pay-fors in the bill to $1.8 trillion over a decade. Manchin has insisted that at least half of the new tax revenue in the bill go to reducing the deficit. Energy Components Senator Kyrsten Sinema, however, has signaled objections to many tax increases, leaving unclear which revenue measures might make a final agreement. The Arizona Democrat this week said she’s focused on talks on new gun-safety legislation. Energy provisions remain among the sticking points in the negotiations on the reconciliation bill, with Manchin -- whose state still produces much of the nation’s coal supply -- advocating for fossil-fuel suppliers. **Proponents of the legislation are aiming for a deal soon that can pass before members of Congress leave for their annual August recess.**

**After that, lawmakers will have little time to legislate as they focus on their re-election campaigns.**

#### NATO support costs PC and focus

The Economist 22, 7/18/22, The Economist is a 178-year newspaper specializing on the political economy, international politics and more, this article is from their extensive cover of the Russo-Ukranian conflict and it’s geopolitical effects., “Is America growing weary of The Long War in Ukraine?” <https://www.economist.com/united-states/2022/07/17/is-america-growing-weary-of-the-long-war-in-ukraine> - Khamari

President joe biden pledges to support Ukraine for “as long as it takes”. His administration has spent about $8bn on military aid alone. In May, Congress passed a $40bn supplemental budget—more than Mr Biden had asked for, and more than the annual defence budgets of most European allies—to assist Ukraine and deal with the war’s global consequences.

But nearly six months into the fight, with the prospect of a [long war](https://www.economist.com/briefing/2022/06/30/does-a-protracted-conflict-favour-russia-or-ukraine) to come, even Mr Biden’s closest allies are asking whether America might soon tire of the burden. The president is more unpopular even than Donald Trump was at this point in his presidency. Inflation has hit a four-decade high. And Republicans are set to make important gains in [mid-term elections in November](https://www.economist.com/briefing/2022/07/14/democrats-in-america-are-realising-they-must-moderate-or-die), where they are likely to take control of the House of Representatives and possibly also the Senate.

In an article in Delaware Online, Chris Coons, a Democratic senator and close ally of Mr Biden’s, praised NATO’s show of unity at a summit in Madrid last month. He also said he was “concerned about the commitment of the American people and its elected leaders to stay the course as the invasion grinds on.” Vladimir Putin, Russia’s leader, he separately told The Economist, “is counting on the West losing focus”.

The aid for Ukraine is meant to last only until the end of September. Few in Congress think another big package can be passed before the mid-terms; many say it will probably be hard to get lawmakers to agree to one thereafter. “It will be an uphill battle,” says a Republican Senate staffer. “The sales pitch from the last time is not good enough now, because the war has fundamentally changed and the domestic situation at home is different.”

Americans broadly support helping Ukraine, and many want the government to do more despite the economic price they must pay for that. According to a YouGov poll conducted this month for The Economist, 39% of respondents—a plurality—think that the Biden administration’s policy should be “tougher”. Half or more support various forms of assistance. But given America’s polarisation, Republicans are warier than Democrats. About one in five Republicans say Mr Biden should be less tough. A plurality, 43%, do not want to give more money to Ukraine. They are also less likely than Democrats to favour giving it advanced weapons.

Congressional aides point to three factors likely to affect support for Ukraine. The first is the complexion of Congress after the mid-terms. If Republicans retake one or both chambers, it will matter which faction in the party has the upper hand. Will it be the old establishment represented by Mitch McConnell, the Senate minority leader who in May took senior colleagues to Kyiv to meet Ukraine’s president, Volodymyr Zelensky? Or will it be the devotees of Mr Trump and his maga (“Make America Great Again”) nativism?

Mr Trump still holds much of the party in [thrall](https://www.economist.com/briefing/2022/01/01/the-republicans-are-still-donald-trumps-party-and-they-can-still-win). He denounced the recent aid for Ukraine, saying: “The Democrats are sending another $40bn to Ukraine, yet America’s parents are struggling to even feed their children.” His base might be energised if, in coming weeks, he announces he will run for president again in 2024. “Fact is if the Republicans take over the House in 2022 us support to Ukraine will come to a halt,” tweeted Ruben Gallego, a House Democrat. Republican leaders, he predicted, would not be able to stop Trumpists like Marjorie Taylor Greene and Matt Gaetz “from dictating our Ukraine policy”. Mr Gaetz shot back: “Ruben is correct.”

Such boasting amounts to “wish-casting”, says Eric Edelman, a former Pentagon official under George W. Bush. maga disciples are still a minority among congressional Republicans. Still, he frets, they could grow larger after the elections. If they make up a bigger share of Republicans in the House—where spending bills originate—and particularly if they hold the balance of power, it will become harder to provide more aid to Ukraine. Few expect the fickle Kevin McCarthy, the Republican House leader, to resist the Trumpian right, even though he has praised Mr Zelensky as “a modern-day Winston Churchill”. Pressure will increase on the Senate (whether controlled by Democrats or Mr McConnell’s Republicans) to tame the excesses of maga-world. The matter of Ukraine, says Mr Edelman, is part of “the larger battle for the soul of the Republican Party”.

A second factor is the extent to which allies are willing to keep helping Ukraine confront Russia. “How much are our European partners doing? That’s literally the first question I get,” says Mr Coons. For most Americans, he notes, Ukraine is “half a world away”. European countries are closer to Russia’s military threat, and also more [vulnerable to the danger of escalation](https://www.economist.com/leaders/2022/07/14/europes-winter-of-discontent), the loss of Russian energy supplies and the outflow of refugees.

Perhaps the biggest consideration is the third factor: Ukraine’s progress on the battlefield. If the Biden administration can show that it is helping Ukrainians to gain ground, rather than getting bogged down in another “forever war”, support will be easier to rally. But a protracted conflict looks all too likely.

#### IRA solves climate---extinction

**Stephanie 22**, journalist for Earth Justice, 7/29/22, "What the Inflation Reduction Act Means for Climate," Earthjustice, https://earthjustice.org/brief/2022/what-the-inflation-reduction-act-means-for-climate

Democrats in the Senate have reached a deal to pass the Inflation Reduction Act, a bill that will invest $369 billion in climate solutions and environmental justice. The bill would put us on a path to 40 percent emissions reduction by 2030 while restoring U.S. credibility to lead climate action on the global stage.

We knew there would be painful provisions in any bill that could get Sen. Jon Manchin’s support, and the bill contains some troubling giveaways to fossil fuel interests that will cause undue harm to communities in the Gulf and Alaska. As a whole, however, it would be a huge step forward in the fight to preserve a livable planet and is one we need to take while we have the chance. Earthjustice is advocating for the bill’s swift passage because climate cannot wait.

What just happened:

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) and Manchin (D-W.Va.) released initial details of the bill on July 27.

Their agreement is significant because Democrats need Manchin’s vote in a narrowly divided Senate to pass climate legislation in the Senate.

A previous ambitious climate bill, the House-passed Build Back Better Act, sank after Manchin opposed it.

**The bill includes** notable wins **on climate and environmental justice:**

It would put the U.S. on a path to a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

It would lower household energy costs by helping people afford to electrify their homes and vehicles, including $9 billion in consumer home energy rebate programs.

It would invest $60 billion in manufacturing solar panels, batteries, electric vehicles, and other clean energy technologies in the U.S., which will create jobs and increase energy security.

It would put $60 billion towards addressing the disproportionate harms some communities face from pollution and the climate crisis, with much of this work led by the communities themselves.

It would pump $20 billion into climate-friendly agriculture.

## UQ

### 2NC---UQ---Sinema

#### Sinema will cave to party pressure.

Hugh Hewitt 22, 8-2-2022, "Four ways to improve the Manchin package," Washington Post, https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/08/02/manchin-bill-navy-education/ / mml

Assume that Sen. Kyrsten Sinema (D-Ariz.) signals her support for the massive tax-and-spending bill agreed to last week by Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) and Sen. Joe Manchin III (D-W.Va.). That’s not a sure thing, of course, but party pressure on Sinema is likely to have an impact. Then an open floor amendment process begins in which Republicans can put forth their own amendments. If Republican senators stick together, hold all 50 of their votes and find just one Democrat to support one or more of their successful amendments all the way through the Senate finish line and the “wraparound” amendment typically used to strip out the “symbolic vote” amendments, the real changes will get included in any final measure sent to the House. Most “poison pill” amendments — designed to kill a much bigger measure before final passage — are normally a waste of time. But one can easily see four amendments that Republicans should try to add to the Schumer-Manchin bill that could survive the last hurdle if attention fixes on them. First, look to the Pacific. “Reconciliation” — the name for the legislative process under which this huge bill proceeds — should redirect some of the unprecedented largesse flowing out of the treasury to the two classes of new submarines we must have — and the shipyards that build and maintain them. While boosting the number of sailors vital to the long conflict ahead with China, lawmakers should reduce military force structure not geared to conflict in the Pacific. A NATO reenergized by Russian President Vladimir Putin’s war in Ukraine means the United States can move to fully fund its commitments to the Pacific Rim. Our subsurface fleet is the future of great-power competition. Reconciliation should — finally — put Congress’s money where its mouth has been for years: into the Navy, especially the Columbia-class subs that will be the backbone of our future nuclear deterrence. Second, condition federal funding for elementary and high schools on the elimination of teaching in elementary grades divisive subjects such as human intimacy, gender and race. Those subjects are best taught in upper grades, and only when parents are fully informed. Public school teachers are public employees. Federal money comes with federal strings, and those strings should serve to limit the radical ideologues at work in public schools. Third, provide start-up funds for construction and expansion of new charter schools — both public and private, and yes, religious and secular — on an equal basis with funds for public schools. Republicans will be hard-pressed to persuade the Senate parliamentarian to rule that such an amendment is germane to a tax-and-spend bill, but that doesn’t mean they shouldn’t try. Capital outlays for buildings count as infrastructure, and small deductions from the other billions should meet the test. So should reallocation of existing federal funding from some Education Department boondoggles to make a start. Along the way, it would be smart to take some steps to force the feds to stop the “woke” movement increasingly seeping into K-12 curriculums. Finally, the Schumer-Manchin compromise is allegedly a huge push to combat global climate change. It appears on close inspection to be a huge push to bail out early investors in green technologies for which no self-sustaining markets have materialized. Slice off some of the billions about to be wasted and mandate the technology that will actually cut harmful emissions: a new nuclear plant in every state. Manchin caved in to his party. Sinema will likely follow. But the latest move in Democratic spending is a huge opportunity for the GOP to define the fall campaign beyond President Biden’s many and manifest failures. If the GOP uses the weeks ahead to demand more spending on our Navy and on alternatives to government schools and to make a strong stand in favor of the nuclear power that will keep our homes lit and warm for generations to come, Manchin’s collapse can provide even more GOP definition for the fall campaign.

#### IRA passes – Sinema’s on the line but Dems cooperate with her on fiscal issues.

Tony Romm 22, 8-2-2022, "Democrats race to ready Inflation Reduction Act for vote this week," Washington Post, https://www.washingtonpost.com/us-policy/2022/08/02/democrats-inflation-reduction-act-bill/ / mml

Senate Democrats are racing to ready their health-care, climate and tax package for a grueling floor fight as soon as this week, even as some in the party remain fearful about the potential for last-minute political disruptions. Six days after striking a legislative deal to the shock of Washington, Democratic leaders still have much to do ahead of a final vote: They need to shore up support among their own ranks, steel themselves for new Republican attacks and prepare for the possibility that a coronavirus outbreak could rattle even the best laid plans around the Inflation Reduction Act. No less than President Biden’s agenda hangs in the balance, just three months before voters are set to head to the polls to decide if Democrats should keep their majorities in the House and Senate. But party lawmakers still have expressed a measure of confidence in recent days, hoping they might avoid the same stunning defeat that scuttled their economic ambitions last year. To start, Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) has yet to secure the support of one of his caucus members: Sen. Kyrsten Sinema (D-Ariz.), a fiscal hawk and political moderate, has said she is still reviewing the proposal — a position her aides repeated on Monday. In the meantime, party lawmakers have faced an intensifying onslaught of criticism from Republicans, who long have opposed their plans to combat climate change, reduce health-care costs and revise the U.S. tax code. On Monday, many top GOP lawmakers painted the Democratic package as a tax increase on Americans. Republicans cited an analysis that only looked at some of the elements in the broader spending bill, omitting key sections that aim to lower Americans’ health-care costs, in an approach Democrats described as misleading. Even amid the uncertainty, Democrats nonetheless have remained jubilant, feeling they may be on the cusp of delivering on a long-stalled package of economic revisions after Schumer and Sen. Joe Manchin III (D-W.Va.) clinched an agreement last week. The resolution marked a stunning turnaround from the collapse that befell the party seven months ago, when Manchin scuttled the broader roughly $2 trillion bill known as the Build Back Better Act. “Our timeline has not changed, and I expect to bring this legislation to the Senate floor to begin voting this week,” Schumer said Monday. The newer, smaller measure includes $433 billion in new spending to combat climate change and reduce health insurance and drug costs for millions of Americans. The investments targeting global warming constitute the largest single burst in federal spending on clean energy and emissions-fighting programs in U.S. history. To pay for the package, Democrats have put forward a wide array of revisions to federal tax law, including a new minimum tax on billion-dollar businesses that currently pay nothing to the U.S. government. Along with their prescription drug pricing revisions, which save Medicare money, the provisions together are expected to raise about $739 billion over the next decade. That is enough offset Democrats’ newly proposed spending while paying down the deficit by $300 billion. Already, Democrats and Republicans have squared off fiercely over the bill and its fiscal implications. Taking to the Senate floor, Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) on Monday said the costs of the spending bill could fall heaviest on manufacturers in particular. Alluding to recent data from the nonpartisan Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT), he described the consequences as a “body blow on a party-line vote.” But Democrats pointed to a follow-up analysis from JCT, released Tuesday morning, that found the manufacturing category includes tech, pharmaceutical and apparel companies. Lawmakers noted that some of the companies in those industries previously have been targeted in congressional investigations for dodging U.S. taxes, though no specific firm was mentioned in the new report. Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), the chairman of the tax-focused Senate Finance Committee, said in a statement that it reflected companies “playing the most games, and avoiding tax by manufacturing their drugs, phones, and shoes abroad.” GOP lawmakers also have argued the tax proposals violate Biden’s pledge not to raise rates on Americans who make less than $400,000 annually, pointing to another set of JCT data that suggest companies could pass a new minimum tax onto Americans. Democrats, however, have sharply rejected that reasoning: They say their tax doesn’t target families and aims instead to make companies pay taxes that they should have been paying in the first place. And Democrats add that JCT did not factor into their math other benefits afforded by their bill, including provisions that help Americans pay for prescription drugs and health insurance. “The more this bill is analyzed by impartial experts, the more we can see Democrats are trying to sell the American people a bill of goods,” said Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho), the top Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, in a statement Monday. In response, Manchin on Monday stressed that there is “not one penny of change in taxes,” telling reporters that a minimum rate on companies is “only fair.” Schumer, separately, said it would “close loopholes long exploited by the largest corporations.” For now, Senate Democrats have focused much of their efforts on preparing the bill for the floor. The task has spanned countless meetings with the chamber’s parliamentarian, as party lawmakers look to ensure their spending proposal adheres to the strict rules of reconciliation. The tactic allows Democrats to adopt their bill using their 51-vote, tiebreaking majority, rather than the usual 60 votes required in the chamber. A final vote could still be days away, since reconciliation opens the door for lawmakers to offer an unlimited number of amendments. Republican aides have signaled they plan to put forward as many politically challenging proposals as they can, making it hard for Democrats to stay together, keep their bill intact and hold a vote swiftly. More unpredictably, however, the coronavirus could further dent Democrats’ plans, since the party cannot afford absences that deny them must-have votes. Manchin has recovered from his coronavirus diagnosis, but another Democrat, Sen. Richard J. Durbin, (Ill.), tested positive at the end of last week. Sen. Patrick J. Leahy (D-Vt.), meanwhile, has been out for weeks recovering from hip surgery, though he is expected to return for the consideration of a reconciliation bill. And Republicans on Monday lost Sen. John Cornyn (R-Tex.) to a covid-19 infection, tipping the scales at least for now toward Democrats’ favor. Cornyn, however, pledged to be back as soon as federal health guidelines allow — “if it happens,” he tweeted, referring to the prospect of a final vote. Yet Democrats could face additional roadblocks as a result of their own members, particularly Sinema, who has not yet offered her final views on the bill. Her earlier objections to the Build Back Better Act forced party leaders to whittle down their plans considerably. The Arizona moderate last year did not support Democrats’ initial efforts to raise tax rates on corporations and wealthy Americans, leaving them no choice but to abandon a central element of Biden’s agenda. Instead, Democrats settled on the corporate minimum tax, which appeared at the time to have Sinema’s blessing. But it remains unclear if she still supports that policy, given the broader changes in the economy, since her party last tried to move a spending package. Sinema previously expressed concern with other elements of the plan, including Democrats’ renewed effort to close what is known as the carried interest loophole. The policy allows private equity, real estate and hedge fund managers, among others, to pay less in taxes.

#### Sinema supports the vast majority of this bill.

Washington Post 22, 8-1-2022, "Don’t sink this bill, Sen. Sinema," Washington Post, https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/08/01/kyrsten-sinema-should-support-inflation-reduction-act/ / mml

Sen. Kyrsten Sinema (D-Ariz.) reportedly wasn’t included in talks between Sen. Joe Manchin III (D-W.Va.) and Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) as they hammered out the details of the surprise Inflation Reduction Act announced last week. The deal, nonetheless, is largely in line with the preferences she laid out in past negotiations: from its relatively modest reforms to prescription drug pricing to action on climate to the 15 percent corporate minimum tax rate estimated to raise $313 billion. Indeed, that the legislation neglects broader hikes on the highest-income Americans is itself a form of concession. There is, however, a big exception. The closure of the carried interest loophole has been a boogeyman for Ms. Sinema from the beginning. But it is in the bill before her today — and for good reason. The carried interest loophole is essentially a way for fund managers to make a lot of money and pay the government very little back because the share of the fund’s profits they receive for their work is taxed at a top rate of just under 24 percent — dramatically less than the 37 percent top rate for ordinary income. This giveaway is so valuable that many have it to thank for the bulk of their fortunes. The Wall Street Journal reported last week that Blackstone Inc. Chief Executive Stephen Schwarzman received somewhere around $150 million in carried interest compensation last year; two other executives at the company received close to $92 million and $77 million. There’s simply no excuse for any lawmaker who purports to care about economic justice or equality to oppose eliminating the carried interest loophole. Yet all the same, Congress — many of whose members benefit from the donations of the deep-pocketed — could allow this scandal to persist, especially if Ms. Sinema demands it. She shouldn’t. Republicans have been making hay in recent days of an analysis by the nonpartisan Joint Committee on Taxation, claiming that the reconciliation would raise rates on those earning less than $400,000 per year, contrary to President Biden’s pledges. This is mostly meaningless. The theory that some of the new 15 percent minimum tax on corporations would be passed on to employees and to shareholders doesn’t change the reality that the bulk of the burden would fall on the richest and the bulk of the benefit would redound to those worse off: whether it comes as help affording medicine or health care or as an investment in slowing global warming. Ms. Sinema shouldn’t sink this bill, most of whose contents she has indicated in the past that she supports. And she shouldn’t sink it because she opposes closing the carried interest loophole. That provision unambiguously aids those who need help most, at the expense only of those who need it not at all.

### AT: Bill won’t pass

#### UQ--- IRA will pass- Sinema on board key

Jack Thomas 7/27/22, [Verified. Reporter, Newsweek. Oregon. Business and Finance, Politics, U.S., “How Kyrsten Sinema Could Deal a Blow to Manchin Schumer Inflation Bill”, Newsweek, <https://www.newsweek.com/how-kyrsten-sinema-could-deal-blow-manchin-schumer-inflation-bill-1728594>.] - Maha

Congressional [Democrats](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/democrats)' newly revived domestic spending package again faces uncertainty as the revamped legislation seeks to close tax loopholes supported by key party moderates.

Democratic Senator [Joe Manchin](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/joe-manchin) on Wednesday said he had struck a deal with [Senate](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/senate) Majority Leader [Chuck Schumer](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/chuck-schumer) of New York on a bill that includes money for health care and climate change. The West Virginia moderate has been a key holdout as the bill was slimmed during months of negotiations. But Democrats' tight margins in [Congress](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/congress) mean Arizona Senator [Kyrsten Sinema](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/kyrsten-sinema) and a group of House moderates could sink the bill to preserve tax provisions that critics say favor wealthy households.

Dubbed the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, the legislation dedicates $369 billion for climate and energy spending, while seeking to reduce the federal deficit by $300 billion and cutting federal spending on prescription drugs by $288 billion, according to a [summary](https://www.democrats.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/inflation_reduction_act_one_page_summary.pdf). The bill also contains provisions to expedite domestic energy production and allow Medicare to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies over prescription drugs.

Manchin and Schumer said in the statement that "the investments will be fully paid for by closing tax loopholes on wealthy individuals and corporations."

While details on the bill are forthcoming, Manchin issued a separate statement calling for the end of tax loopholes like carried interest as well as the state and local tax deduction (often referred to as "SALT.")

Carried interest is the portion of an investment company's profits paid to a manager or partner. Because the money is treated as capital gains, it's taxed at a lower rate than income. Critics, who include Massachusetts Senator [Elizabeth Warren](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/elizabeth-warren) and former [President Donald Trump](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/donald-trump), say carried interest means wealthy investment managers end up paying a lower tax rate than other lower-paying professionals.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce [says eliminating it](https://www.uschamber.com/taxes/new-us-chamber-study-shows-proposed-carried-interest-tax-increase-would-reduce) would cost 4.9 million jobs within five years.

As negotiations were underway last year on a different version of the legislative package, [*The New York Times*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/new-york-times) reported that Sinema privately said she would oppose any corporate or income tax rate increases.

Although Sinema signaled last year that she was supportive of the spending bill, she has not issued a statement concerning the Inflation Reduction Act as of Wednesday evening. Newsweek has reached out to Sinema's office for comment. In the House, a group of [moderate Democrats](https://gottheimer.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=2816) have been pressing to reinstate SALT, which allows taxpayers to deduct state and local taxes from their federal tax bill, after previously being capped by the Republican tax bill in 2018. New Jersey Representative Josh Gottheimer, who has led efforts to reinstate SALT, told Politico that he didn't immediately oppose the legislation. I've got to understand the impact it has on families in my district," he said. "Until I see specifics, it's hard to know."

#### UQ--- Manchin strikes deal on bill.

Jack **Turman** and Nikole **Killion** July 28 2022, Jack Turman is a congressional reporter and Nikole Killion is a veteran D.C. Journalist that has covered every campaign and interviewed the president, **7/28**, "Manchin and Schumer announce surprise deal on climate, health care, and tax package," <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/manchin-schumer-deal-climate-tax-health-care-bill/> - Elizabeth

en. Joe Manchin announced Wednesday that he had reached an agreement with Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer — which had eluded them for months — on health care costs, energy and climate issues.

The package will be paid for by closing tax loopholes on wealthy individuals and large corporations, Schumer and Manchin said in announcing the deal.

The health care, tax and energy package needs to be reviewed by the Senate parliamentarian to pass through the budget reconciliation process, which allows Democrats to approve the measure with 50 votes. In a joint statement, Schumer and Manchin said the "revised legislative text will be submitted to the Parliamentarian for review this evening and the full Senate will consider it next week."

President Joe Biden said in a statement Wednesday that he had spoken to Manchin and Schumer and he supports the deal.

"If enacted, this legislation will be historic, and I urge the Senate to move on this bill as soon as possible, and for the House to follow as well," Mr. Biden said.

#### UQ--- Manchin strikes major deal with schumer on climate, taxes and healthcare

By [Sahil **Kapur**](https://www.nbcnews.com/author/sahil-kapur-ncpn1123791) and Frank **Thorp V22**

<https://www.newsweek.com/how-kyrsten-sinema-could-deal-blow-manchin-schumer-inflation-bill-1728594> - Niki

[Democrats were furious](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/congress/democrats-vent-fury-joe-manchin-shelves-action-climate-change-rcna38472) this month when Manchin [suggested](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/congress/manchin-balks-climate-tax-pieces-biden-agenda-bill-backs-health-care-p-rcna38350) he would oppose including climate and tax provisions in the deal."With respect to my position, I have never and will never walk away from solving the problems facing the nation we all love," Manchin said in a statement. "I strongly support the passage of commonsense policies that reduce inflation and focus on the major challenges confronting America today and in the future."He added: "For too long, the reconciliation debate in Washington has been defined by how it can help advance Democrats['] political agenda called Build Back Better. Build Back Better is dead, and instead we have the opportunity to make our country stronger by bringing Americans together."Two weeks ago, Manchin [conveyed to Schumer](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/congress/manchin-balks-climate-tax-pieces-biden-agenda-bill-backs-health-care-p-rcna38350) that he was willing to quickly move on drug pricing and health insurance funding but that he wanted to wait until mid-August to advance major investments in climate change or taxes, sources said at the time.Manchin's spokesperson, Sam Runyon, said: "Today’s announcement is not a reversal of anything."The carried interest provision could be a problem for Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., who last year indicated to party leaders that she opposed closing the tax break, which primarily affects investment managers. Her office declined to immediately comment on the provision or the broader Schumer-Manchin deal Wednesday.But it represents only a small slice of the larger package, at an estimated $14 billion in revenue, and it is unlikely to prevent a version of the legislation from passing.Sinema "will have to make a decision, but I know that her concerns were kept in mind when putting this together," Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., told NBC News after the deal was announced.

#### UQ--- Health-care bill will pass--reconciliation and support from Manchin emerge

Emma Newburger 7/22, Reporter for Consumer News and Business Channel (CNBC), 7/28/2022, “Schumer-Manchin reconciliation bill has $369 billion to fight climate change — here are the details,” <https://www.cnbc.com/2022/07/27/schumer-manchin-reconciliation-bill-climate-change-provisions.html> -Jinrong

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., and Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.V., on Wednesday unveiled a long-anticipated reconciliation package that would invest hundreds of billions of dollars to combat climate change and advance clean energy programs.

The 725-page piece of legislation, called the “Inflation Reduction Act of 2022,” provides $369 billion for climate and clean energy provisions, the most aggressive climate investment ever taken by Congress. The bill’s climate provisions (summarized here) would slash the country’s carbon emissions by roughly 40% by 2030, according to a summary of the deal.

The abrupt announcement of the deal came less than two weeks after Manchin, a key centrist who holds the swing vote in the 50-50 Senate, said he wouldn’t support any climate provisions until he had a better understanding of the inflation figures for July.

If passed and signed into law, the act would include funding for the following:

Manufacturing clean energy products, including a $10 billion investment tax credit to manufacturing facilities for things like electric vehicles, wind turbines, and solar panels, and $30 billion for additional production tax credits to accelerate domestic manufacturing of solar panels, wind turbines, batteries and critical minerals processing. It would also include up to $20 billion in loans to build new clean vehicle manufacturing facilities across the U.S., and $2 billion to revamp existing auto plants to make clean vehicles.

Cutting emissions, including $20 billion for the agriculture sector and $3 billion to reduce air pollution at ports. It also includes unspecified funding for a program to reduce methane emissions, which are often produced as a byproduct of oil and gas production, and are more than 80 times as potent as carbon dioxide in warming the atmosphere. In addition, the act allocates $9 billion for the federal government to buy American-made clean technologies, including $3 billion for the U.S. Postal Service to buy zero-emission vehicles.

Research and development, including a $27 billion clean energy technology accelerator to support deployment of technologies that curb emissions and $2 billion for breakthrough energy research in government labs.

Preserving and supporting natural resources, including $5 billion in grants to support healthy forests, forest conservation, and urban tree planting, and $2.6 billion in grants to conserve and restore coastal habitats.

Support for states, including about $30 billion in grant and loan programs for states and electric utilities to advance the clean energy transition.

Environmental justice initiatives, amounting to more than $60 billion to address the unequal effects of pollution on low-income communities and communities of color.

For individuals, a $7,500 tax credit to buy new electric vehicles and a $4,000 credit for buying a used one. Both credits would only be available to lower and middle income consumers.

“I support a plan that will advance a realistic energy and climate policy that lowers prices today and strategically invests in the long game,” Manchin said in a statement on Wednesday. “This legislation ensures that the market will take the lead, rather than aspirational political agendas or unrealistic goals, in the energy transition that has been ongoing in our country.”

The Senate is set to vote on the proposed legislation next week, after which it will go to the Democrat-controlled House of Representatives.

President Joe Biden on Wednesday said the tax credits and investments for energy projects in the agreement would create thousands of new jobs and help lower energy costs, and urged the Senate to move on the legislation as soon as possible.

The president has vowed to curb U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by 50% to 52% from 2005 levels by 2030 and reach net-zero emissions by mid-century. With no reconciliation bill, the country is on track to miss that goal, according to a recent analysis by the independent research firm Rhodium Group.

“This is the action the American people have been waiting for,” the president said in a statement on Wednesday. “This addresses the problems of today – high health care costs and overall inflation – as well as investments in our energy security for the future.”

Manchin, a Democrat from West Virginia whose resistance had long derailed sweeping legislation on those issues, abruptly revealed the agreement in a press release, followed by a joint release with Schumer.

The announcement from Manchin came hours after the Senate [passed the Chips and Science Act](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/senate-chips-act-subsidize-semiconductor-chip-production/), a bill to subsidize investments in domestic semiconductor chip production. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell had threatened to stymie the semiconductor bill if Democrats continued to pursue party-line reconciliation legislation.

"From here forward, the debate over a future reconciliation bill or any targeted legislation must focus on supporting the everyday hardworking Americans we have been elected to serve," Manchin said in a statement. "I support the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 because it provides a responsible path forward that is laser focused on solving our nation's major economic, energy and climate problems. The question for my colleagues is whether they are willing to put their election politics aside and embrace the commonsense approach that the overwhelming majority of the American people support and will best serve the future of this nation."

According to a one-page description of the legislation from Schumer and Manchin, the bill would invest $369 billion in energy security and climate change and extend the Affordable Care Act program for three years. In addition, the legislation would grant Medicare the ability to negotiate prescription drug prices.

Senator Elizabeth Warren on Wednesday noted the finality of the deal.

"The good news here is that it is Senator Manchin, who is announcing a deal, not that they're close to a deal or not that there are some parts to a deal," she said.

House progressives also seemed optimistic, [tweeting](https://twitter.com/USProgressives/status/1552425773109329920?s=20&t=E3lxhYHFOyiFLlvcXavcfA), "We'll need to evaluate the details, but it's promising a deal to deliver on those issues might finally be in reach."

Republicans immediately criticized Manchin's agreement. Senator John Cornyn of Texas called it "Manchin's New Build Back Broke Bill."

"Senate Democrats can change the name of Build Back Broke as many times as they want, it won't be any less devastating to American families and small businesses," Cornyn said. "Raising taxes on job creators, crushing energy producers with new regulations, and stifling innovators looking for new cures will only make this recession worse, not better."

#### UQ--- Chances of Bill Passing has Skyrocketed

Sahil **Kapur &** Frank **Thorp** **22**, Political Reporters for NBC News, 7/27/22, “Manchin strikes major deal with Schumer on climate, taxes and health care,” <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/congress/manchin-strikes-major-deal-schumer-climate-tax-health-care-rcna40350> - Inti

Manchin announced the agreement in a joint statement with Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., after months of negotiations between the two appeared to break down recently. The deal represents a major breakthrough for elements of President Joe Biden's agenda that appeared to be all but dead.

“The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 will make a historic down payment on deficit reduction to fight inflation, invest in domestic energy production and manufacturing, and reduce carbon emissions by roughly 40 percent by 2030,” Schumer and Manchin said in a statement. "The bill will finally allow Medicare to negotiate for prescription drugs and lower health care costs for millions of Americans. Additionally, we have reached agreement with President Biden and Speaker Pelosi to pass comprehensive permitting reform legislation before the end of this fiscal year. We urge every member of the U.S. Senate to support this important legislation.” The two Democrats said the text of the deal will be submitted to the Senate parliamentarian on Wednesday evening "and the full Senate will consider it next week."

The legislation, released by Schumer, still needs the support of all 50 Democratic-voting senators to become law, without hope of winning GOP support. But Manchin, who represents a deeply conservative state, has been the biggest holdout to a major bill for months, giving a version of the proposal strong odds of passing the Senate.

It would also have to pass the House before it reaches Biden’s desk.

Biden praised the deal in a statement.

"This afternoon, I spoke with Senators Schumer and Manchin and offered my support for the agreement they have reached on a bill to fight inflation and lower costs for American families," Biden said, urging speedy passage of the bill. "This is the action the American people have been waiting for. This addresses the problems of today — high health care costs and overall inflation — as well as investments in our energy security for the future."

According to a one-page summary, the bill will include $739 billion in new revenue through a 15% corporate minimum tax, prescription drug savings and added IRS enforcement, and it will limit the so-called carried interest tax break.

#### UQ--- Bill will pass but it needs all the support it can get Jake Thomas 7/27, University of Illinois grad reporter for Newsweek, 7/27/22, “How Kyrsten Sinema Could Deal a Blow to Manchin-Schumer Inflation Bill”, https://www.newsweek.com/how-kyrsten-sinema-could-deal-blow-manchin-schumer-inflation-bill-1728594

Congressional Democrats' newly revived domestic spending package again faces uncertainty as the revamped legislation seeks to close tax loopholes supported by key party moderates.  Democratic Senator Joe Manchin on Wednesday said he had struck a deal with Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York on a bill that includes money for **health care** and climate change. The West Virginia moderate has been a key holdout as the bill was slimmed during months of negotiations. But Democrats' tight margins in Congress mean Arizona Senator Kyrsten Sinema and a group of House moderates **could** sink the bill to preserve tax provisions that critics say favor wealthy households.  Dubbed the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, the legislation dedicates $369 billion for climate and energy spending, while seeking to reduce the federal deficit by $300 billion and cutting federal spending on prescription drugs by $288 billion, according to a summary. The bill also contains provisions to expedite domestic energy production and allow Medicare to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies over prescription drugs.   Senator Kyrsten Sinema could sink a carefully negotiated version of Democrats' key domestic spending package. Above, Sinema talks with fellow Democrats and guests before a news conference to celebrate the passage of legislation that will place statues of former Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sandra Day O’Connor in the U.S. Capitol, on May 12, 2022.  "The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 will make a historic down payment on deficit reduction to fight inflation, invest in domestic energy production and manufacturing, and reduce carbon emissions by roughly 40 percent by 2030," Manchin and Schumer said in a joint statement.  Democrats are planning to pass the legislation through the evenly divided Senate using **budget reconciliation.** The arcane Senate procedure allows Democrats to sidestep the 60-vote requirement to overcome a legislative filibuster. But that means Democrats can't afford a single defection in the Senate and already have little leeway in the House, where they hold a slim majority.   Manchin and Schumer said in the statement that "the investments will be fully paid for by closing tax loopholes on wealthy individuals and corporations."  While details on the bill are forthcoming, Manchin issued a separate statement calling for the end of tax loopholes like carried interest as well as the state and local tax deduction (often referred to as "SALT.")  Carried interest is the portion of an investment company's profits paid to a manager or partner. Because the money is treated as capital gains, it's taxed at a lower rate than income. Critics, who include Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren and former President Donald Trump, say carried interest means wealthy investment managers end up paying a lower tax rate than other lower-paying professionals.  The U.S. Chamber of Commerce says eliminating it would cost 4.9 million jobs within five years.  As negotiations were underway last year on a different version of the legislative package, The New York Times reported that Sinema privately said she would oppose any corporate or income tax rate increases.  Five Democratic Midterm Candidates Who Could Make Joe Manchin Irrelevant Republicans' Chances of Beating Mark Kelly With 4 Months to Election: Polls GOP's Chances of Beating Dems for Senate Control With 4 Months to Election Although Sinema signaled last year that she was supportive of the spending bill, she has not issued a statement concerning the Inflation Reduction Act as of Wednesday evening. Newsweek has reached out to Sinema's office for comment.   In the House, a group of moderate Democrats have been pressing to reinstate SALT, which allows taxpayers to deduct state and local taxes from their federal tax bill, after previously being capped by the Republican tax bill in 2018.  New Jersey Representative Josh Gottheimer, who has led efforts to reinstate SALT, told Politico that he didn't immediately oppose the legislation.  "I've got to understand the impact it has on families in my district," he said. "Until I see specifics, it's hard to know."

#### UQ--- Manchin has agreed to a top agenda bill, will pass and a big win for dems

John **Everett** and Marianne **Levine 22,** 7/27/22, Marianne is a Senate Reporter for Politico and co-authored Politico Influence, Burgess is the congressional Bureau Chief for Politico specializing in the senate since 2013, “Manchin’s latest shocker: a $700B deal” <https://www.politico.com/news/2022/07/27/manchin-schumer-senate-deal-energy-taxes-00048325>

Joe Manchin and Chuck Schumer looked at loggerheads after their talks on a sweeping climate, tax and health care bill ran aground nearly two weeks ago. In fact, they were working on Washington’s best-kept secret.

On July 18, four days after Manchin and Schumer’s talks seemed to fizzle out with only a limited health care deal, Manchin reached out to Schumer to see if he was amenable to picking things back up. By Wednesday afternoon, they had a deal on a bill that includes energy and tax policy, a turnaround after the two deadlocked on Democrats’ marquee party-line agenda.

“It’s like two brothers from different mothers, I guess. He gets pissed off, I get pissed off, and we’ll go back and forth. He basically put out statements, and the dogs came after me again,” Manchin said in an interview on Wednesday. “We just worked through it.”

All throughout last week, Manchin stayed quiet about the talks even as most senators, staffers and journalists had moved on: “I didn’t know if it could come to fruition. I really didn’t know, OK, so why talk about something, again, build people’s hopes up? I got the ire of everybody.”

That ire turned into jubilation within the Democratic Party by Wednesday night after Manchin and Schumer announced what they dubbed “the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022,” which is slated for the Senate floor next week. There’s still significant concerns to be dealt with over whether it can meet chamber rules for avoiding a filibuster, and Sen. Kyrsten Sinema (D-Ariz.) hasn’t signed off yet — but Manchin’s deal with Schumer amounts to the best news for Democrats in weeks.

Moreover, Manchin’s announcement came hours after final passage of semiconductor legislation, a bill Republicans threatened to block mere weeks ago in an effort to stop Democrats from pursuing a party-line tax, climate and health care package.

The Manchin-Schumer deal includes roughly $370 billion in energy and climate spending, $300 billion in deficit reduction, three years of subsidies for Affordable Care Act premiums, prescription drug reform and significant tax changes. Manchin said the bill was at one point “bigger than that” but that’s where the two Democrats settled.

As part of the agreement announced Wednesday, Schumer and Speaker Nancy Pelosi agreed to pass legislation governing energy permits. Manchin said he spoke to Schumer, Pelosi and President Joe Biden on Wednesday.

After Manchin’s talks with Biden stalled last December on the more sweeping Democratic bill known as Build Back Better, Manchin recalled Biden telling him: “Joe, it’s not going to help for me to be involved in this … if you can do anything, good. If not, I understand.”

“You know, as an old senator, he understands things are a little rough at times,” Manchin said. In a statement, Biden thanked Manchin and Schumer for their work and described the deal as “the action the American people have been waiting for.”

Following Manchin’s stated interest in limiting a party-line domestic policy bill to health care and lowering prescription drug prices without more information about inflation, Democrats were expecting to pursue a bill that did not include climate or energy provisions. But Manchin and Schumer quietly continued negotiating behind the scenes, mostly through staff, leading to the surprise breakthrough while Manchin was sidelined with Covid.

“There was no pressure. The easiest thing for me to do is walk away and do nothing ... just stay away,” Manchin said. “That was not the case, because it was not the right thing.”

The agreement mirrors roughly what Manchin first laid out earlier this year as his goals for the party-line bill, albeit with a more limited tax title. Democrats plan to raise revenues for the legislation by imposing a 15 percent corporate minimum tax, increasing IRS enforcement, reducing drug prices and closing the so-called carried interest loophole.

Notably, the legislation also extends Affordable Care Act subsidies through the 2024 election and the first term of Biden’s presidency, taking a big political headache off the table for Democrats. Manchin said that “helps people because you just can’t throw [increases] on them during inflammatory times like this.”

It does not include surtaxes on people making more than $10 million a year, ending a push by most Democrats to impose higher rates on the wealthy; nor does it include a global tax deal. Manchin said the bill in theory should be bipartisan but he believed Republicans would never touch the tax code for corporations.

He also saw this moment as the last, best opportunity for Democrats given the uncertainty ahead of the midterms.

“In any other environment [than] what we have right now, this would be a bipartisan bill. I really believe that. This is the only vehicle I have to work with right now,” Manchin said. “We don’t know what the future will bring. But all indications, might be a little bit of a shake-up. And that changes the dynamics of getting something done,” he added.

Another twist: Manchin said the final deal does not leave out new incentives for electric vehicles, which he’d resisted in what became a major sticking point in the negotiations. Manchin said the bill gives incentives to make new car batteries in America “and not only be able to assemble them, but be able to extract the minerals that we need, critical minerals, in North America.”

Schumer held a call Wednesday evening with committee chairs who have jurisdiction over climate as well as senators focused on the issue. The deal with Manchin includes a methane fee as well as a $4,000 tax credit for the purchase of used electric vehicles, according to two Democrats familiar with the matter.

The bill also includes efforts to make fossil fuels cleaner, Manchin said, as well as to increase production to help American allies amid Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, which has limited European fuel supplies.

Sinema learned of the deal on Wednesday afternoon and had no immediate comment. When asked about the agreement, Majority Whip Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) replied: “That’s news to me.” Others declined to comment, saying they had yet to see the details. Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) said his “first clue” was Manchin’s press release.

“There were hints, but nobody wanted to say anything until it was landed,” said Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.). “But it’s good that it’s landed.”

After months of rocky negotiations — and the expectation from many that any hope of reaching a climate deal with Manchin was gone — Democrats were buoyant Wednesday afternoon, even as the details of the deal had yet to be released. Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) put it this way: “At least we’re using the word ‘climate.’ It’s a good start.”

How the bill plays in the House will also be important. Progressives were elated, with Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D-Wash.) calling it a “really important victory.”

And moderate Rep. Josh Gottheimer (D-N.J.), who made state and local tax relief his red line, was noncommittal about whether he’d dig in even as his priority was left out of the bill: “Until I see specifics it’s hard to know.”

Senate Republicans attacked Manchin for agreeing to a deal with Schumer after lauding him for stopping several iterations of the party-line legislation. Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) said in a statement he couldn’t believe Manchin was “agreeing to a massive tax increase in the name of climate change when our economy is in a recession.”

Manchin said he understands that the legislation will divide Washington and potentially reshape his reputation. Instead of the man who obstructed Biden’s agenda, Manchin is now the Democrat from deep-red West Virginia who cut a major climate change deal three months before an election.

“I’m sure all the pundits will come out [from] different directions now, but I’m not worried about me,” Manchin said. “I don’t think you could be attacked any more than I’ve been attacked for a year. So, I don’t know what else they could do to me.”

### AT: Sinema not key

#### UQ--- Dems want to pass drug bill now but Sinema’s hesitant

Mike DeBonis 22, Congressional Reporter at The Washington Post, 5/24/2022, “Democrats Refocus Attention on Drug Prices After Oregon Primary Shakeup”, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/05/24/drug-prices/> - Haoyou

Oregon Rep. Kurt Schrader has long served as a reliable ally of the pharmaceutical industry inside an increasingly hostile Democratic Party.

As scores of House colleagues called for legislation that would allow Medicare to negotiate the prices it pays those companies — which promised to drive down costs at the pharmacy counter but decimate the U.S. drug industry’s roughly $550 billion in yearly revenue — Schrader was among a small handful of Democrats who pushed back, and he played a key role last year in narrowing his party’s efforts.

Now Schrader’s political career is hanging by a gossamer thread after a primary opponent, Jamie McLeod-Skinner, made the congressman’s opposition to the Democrats’ marquee drug-pricing bill a central issue in her campaign. His potential loss has rekindled interest on Capitol Hill in pushing through prescription drug legislation before the midterm elections, when Democrats are at risk of losing their congressional majorities and any chance at the sort of aggressive policy they have promised in their campaigns since at least 2006.

“It is a wake-up call across the country on the importance of taking steps to hold down the cost of medicine,” said Sen. Ron Wyden (D), a fellow Oregonian, a longtime advocate for Medicare drug negotiation and the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

The talk has been further fueled by Democrats’ urgency to pass legislation — any legislation — that can address rising consumer prices, as well as recent comments from Sen. Joe Manchin III (D-W.Va.), who played the leading role last year in derailing Build Back Better, the Democratic megabill that was set to include drug-pricing legislation alongside climate, tax, child care and numerous other provisions.

Mostly dead or slightly alive? Democrats don’t yet know if Build Back Better can be revived.

While Manchin has repeatedly declared Build Back Better dead since pulling the plug back in December, he has insisted he is still open to legislation dealing with prescription drug prices. In a brief interview last week, he said drug pricing would be “the easy lift” in any package that comes together in the coming months.

Appearing on Monday at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Manchin said he saw drug-pricing legislation as a centerpiece of any potential Democratic bill, alongside provisions on inflation and energy.

But it is Schrader’s likely loss that has lit a fire under some Democrats who are anxious that it won’t just be Democratic voters who punish them at that ballot box this year for not fulfilling one of their central promises.

Interviews with key Democrats revealed a growing sense of desperation that action is necessary on drug prices, especially as inflation continues to weigh on the U.S. economy and Democrats’ hopes of salvaging their majorities in November. A group of 20 endangered swing-district House Democrats all but begged Wyden and Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) to pass legislation in a letter this week.

“Just like you, we were sent to Washington on the promise that we’d tackle big issues and work to improve the lives of those we represent,” they wrote. “And what issue do we hear about at every town hall? At every event? The price of prescription drugs.”

While many Democrats, including Wyden, hesitated to single out Schrader’s actions, they said his election shows voters are frustrated with the inaction — and willing to punish those who appear to stand in the way.

“We’ve pledged again and again to lift this absurd restriction that keeps Medicare from negotiating to hold down the cost of medicine,” Wyden said last week. “I’ve had a thousand town meetings, and the opposition to negotiating lower prices of medicine must be in the witness protection program, because I can’t find them.”

Even the pharmaceutical industry’s critics acknowledge it isn’t Schrader’s fault that drug-pricing legislation was not enacted. In fact, he was part of a group of moderate Democrats who struck a deal with more liberal colleagues last November to advance a compromise — one that would allow the federal government to negotiate with drug companies, but only on a limited set of drugs.

Rep. Stephanie Murphy (D-Fla.), who worked closely with Schrader as a leader of the moderate Blue Dog Coalition, declined to comment on a circumstances surrounding Schrader’s race. But she said that those on the left flank of the party had “mischaracterized” his views.

Last year, Schrader was among a small group of Democrats who refused to advance the drug-pricing bill endorsed by House leadership, the Lower Drug Costs Now Act — at one point refusing to advance it in a key Energy and Commerce Committee vote. That opposition, as well as Senate opposition from Sen. Kyrsten Sinema (D-Ariz.), led to the narrower compromise bill.

#### UQ--- Will pass, but Biden needs to convince Sinema

Alan Fram & Lisa Mascaro 7/28, Fram is reporter at the Associated Press, master’s degree in journalism at University of California, Berkeley, Mascaro is an AP Chief Congressional Correspondent in Washington, D.C., 7/28/2022, “Biden hails economic bill amid signs of broad Dem support”, <https://apnews.com/article/inflation-technology-health-climate-and-environment-c62a6ea7beb1b570fd510336212e49be> - Haoyou

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden hailed a nascent Democratic package of climate, health care and tax initiatives as “a giant step forward” for the country Thursday as congressional leaders began nailing down votes for a campaign-season bill they’ve cast as a boon for voters struggling with inflation.

A day after Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and conservative Sen. Joe Manchin stunned Washington by resurrecting components of a compromise many thought dead, early signs were encouraging for the party.

After Schumer briefed Democratic senators on the 725-page measure, Sen. Chris Van Hollen, D-Md., said lawmakers’ reaction has been “uniformly positive.” And Reps. Tom Suozzi, D-N.Y., and Tom Malinowski, D-N.J., suggested they could back the measure even though it lacks higher federal tax deductions for state and local taxes that they’ve championed in the past.

“We’re taking a giant step forward as a nation,” Biden said at the White House. In a message to lawmakers, he called it a compromise that was “the strongest bill you can pass” to address health care, climate, energy and families’ living costs. “Pass it, pass it for the American people.”

The measure’s phoenix-like rebirth came Wednesday, when Manchin unexpectedly agreed to add tax, energy and environment provisions to a plan he’d earlier said he wanted limited, for now, to prescription drug price curbs and health care assistance. He told reporters Thursday that his talks with Schumer had continued and disputed that he’d reversed himself.

“I’ve never been in reverse in my lifetime and I never walked away,” Manchin, who has COVID-19 and has stayed away from the Capitol, said in a conference call. He also described what he said he’s endured during the past year, when he repeatedly forced Biden and top Democrats to whittle down what was initially a $3.5 trillion proposal.

“No one in their right mind would go through all the protest, harassments” that he faced, Manchin said, after he scuttled a roughly $2 trillion version that the House had passed after he insisted on cuts. He said Democrats “turned the dogs loose” on him two weeks ago after he told Schumer that he wanted a measure limited to health care this month because of inflation fears.

He said he was now backing the expanded bill “because I know I’m not adding to inflation” with the agreement. And he acknowledged that he wants the Mountain Valley Pipeline, which will deliver natural gas from West Virginia to Virginia, to be at “the top of the heap” under permitting procedures that Biden and congressional leaders have pledged to move through Congress this fall.

Loose ends remain in a 50-50 Senate where support from every Democrat — plus Vice President Kamala Harris’ tie-breaking vote — are needed to overcome unanimous Republican opposition that seems preordained. Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., who last year joined Manchin in forcing cuts and changes in larger versions of the plan, declined to tell reporters her stance.

In the narrowly divided House, Democrats can lose no more than four votes and prevail. Rep. Stephanie Murphy, D-Fla., a leader of the centrist House Blue Dog Coalition, said she wouldn’t yet comment on her views. “I don’t think there’s anybody wildly pleased,” said No. 2 House Democratic leader Steny Hoyer of Maryland. “But I think the overwhelming majority think the things that are in it are good things.”

Overall, the emerging package would raise $739 billion over a decade from higher taxes on huge corporations and hedge fund owners, beefed up IRS tax collections and lower federal costs from trimming pharmaceutical prices. It would spend $369 billion on energy and climate change initiatives, what analysts and environmentalists called the largest federal investment ever on clean energy. Another $64 billion would be to extend health insurance subsidies for three years, leaving $306 billion for a modest swipe at massive federal deficits.

The measure is markedly less ambitious than the $3.5 trillion version that stumbled, shrank and ultimately died in Congress last year, largely due to Manchin’s opposition. The new bill lacks many of the party’s initial goals including funds for a more generous child tax credit, paid family leave, expanded Medicare benefits and health care aid for poor families in the dozen states — mostly Republican and in the South — that refused to expand Medicaid under President Barack Obama’s health care law.

Even so, the surprise agreement moves Biden and Democrats to the edge of claiming victory on top priorities like addressing global warming and easing consumers’ health care costs, and boosting levies on the affluent to pay for it.

“It’s bigger than nothing,” said Rep. Mark Pocan, D-Wis., who with other progressives fought vainly last year against Manchin’s efforts to trim the proposal. After Manchin prevailed, “A lot of us thought this was done unless we had more Senate seats, and the fact that we’re able to still get something quite substantial done is impressive.”

Rep. Kurt Schrader, D-Ore., another of his party’s more conservative lawmakers, called the bill’s prescription drug provisions “the most important piece of legislation we’ll vote on in this Congress” besides last fall’s infrastructure measure.

As leaders sold the plan to their members, the government reported that the economy had constricted for a second straight quarter. Worries that a recession was coming only intensified concerns over the nation’s worst bout with inflation since the 1980s.

Both parties know inflation and economic anxiety is on top of voters’ minds. With Republicans expected to win control of the House and perhaps the Senate too, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., turned his fire on Democrats’ measure.

“Our colleagues across the aisle have already completely lost Americans’ trust on the economy, before this reckless taxing and spending spree. Apparently they want to see how much farther they can fall,” he said.

The bill would create tax credits for low- and middle-income buyers of electric vehicles, plus grants and tax breaks to spur clean energy technology and reduce carbon emissions.

Medicare would begin negotiating for the pharmaceuticals it buys, prescription price increases would be limited and Medicare beneficiaries’ out-of-pocket drug costs would be capped at $2,000 annually.

### AT: PC not key

#### UQ--- Biden’s focused on passing the bill, but he needs PC to keep climate provisions

Ximena Bustillo & Laura Benshoff 22, Bustillo is a multi-platform reporter at NPR covering politics out of the White House and Congress, before joining NPR, she was an award-winning food and agriculture policy reporter and newsletter author at POLITICO covering immigration, climate, labor, supply chain and equity issues; Benshoff is a reporter covering energy and climate on a temporary basis for NPR's National desk, 7/15/2022, “Biden urges Democrats to pass slim health care bill after Manchin nixes climate action”, - Hayou https://www.npr.org/2022/07/15/1111675233/manchin-rejects-climate-and-tax-provisions-in-democrats-spending-package

President Joe Biden said on Friday that he will take executive action on climate change as talks among Senate Democrats on possible legislation faltered, and he encouraged them to pursue a smaller deal focused on health care, in part to lower health costs in the face of high inflation.

"I will not back down: the opportunity to create jobs and build a clean energy future is too important to relent," Biden said in a statement. "Health care is also critical... Families all over the nation will sleep easier if Congress takes this action. The Senate should move forward, pass it before the August recess, and get it to my desk so I can sign it."

Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., delivered a serious blow to ongoing Senate negotiations for a Democratic budget package, telling Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., on Thursday that he will not support a bill that includes climate or tax provisions — leaving slimmed-down legislation focused on health care.

The West Virginia Democrat favors a bill that would lower prescription drug prices and extend for two years health insurance subsidies under the Affordable Care Act, which would prevent premium increases that many states are set to announce next month, according to a Democrat briefed on the conversation.

This could mean a standalone health care bill is within Democrats' reach. But this is far less than the $2 trillion package originally proposed, which would have added record funding to key areas of President Biden's domestic agenda, namely climate and social safety net programs.

No spending bill can advance without Manchin's support in the evenly divided Senate, and Schumer has been negotiating with the frequent holdout for weeks.

Manchin still open to a deal, but wants a check on spending amid high inflation

Manchin told Schumer he wanted to see the July inflation numbers before committing to a bigger package, he said on Friday.

If Schumer wanted to move forward immediately, Manchin told West Virginia radio host Hoppy Kercheval, a much slimmer bill on health care was his best option.

"He took that as 'no,' I guess," Manchin said.

Manchin also said he saw progress on the climate side of the talks, despite disagreements about the magnitude of fossil fuel cuts, and he wanted to look at passing a bill in September. He added he did not want to stop future negotiations.

"I would not put my staff through this — I would not put myself through this — if I wasn't sincere about trying to find a pathway forward to do something that's good for our country," he said.

Earlier this week, the conservative Democrat had expressed worries about increasing government spending, and putting more dollars into the economy, as the United States faces its worst inflation in decades.

"While Washington seems to now understand this reality, it is time for us to work together to get unnecessary spending under control, produce more energy at home and take more active and serious steps to address this record inflation that now poses a clear and present danger to our economy," he said in a statement on Wednesday, after the government's report for June consumer spending showed the highest inflation in 40 years.

"No matter what spending aspirations some in Congress may have, it is clear to anyone who visits a grocery store or a gas station that we cannot add any more fuel to this inflation fire."

#### UQ--- Inflation bill key and support is needed

Emily **Cochrane**, Jim **Tankersley** **and** Lisa **Friedman 7/27** Emily Cochrane is a reporter at the New York Times. She has covered Congress since late 2018, focusing on the annual debate over government funding and economic legislation, ranging from emergency pandemic relief to infrastructure. Jim Tankersley is a White House correspondent for The New York Times, with a focus on economic policy. He spent over more than a decade covering politics and economics in Washington, he has written extensively about the stagnation of the American middle class and the decline of economic opportunity in wide swaths of the country. Lisa Friedman is a New York Times reporter on the climate desk, focusing on climate and environmental policy in Washington. 7/27/2022. “Manchin, in Reversal, Agrees to Quick Action on Climate and Tax Plan”. <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/07/27/us/politics/manchin-climate-tax-bill.html> - Sarita

The announcement suggested that Democrats could move in the coming days to salvage a major piece of their domestic agenda, which only weeks ago appeared doomed given Mr. Manchin’s refusal to quickly sign on. Top Democrats released legislation on Wednesday evening, aiming for votes as early as next week.

“This is the action the American people have been waiting for,” Mr. Biden said in a statement, calling on both chambers to quickly pass the measure. “This addresses the problems of today — high health care costs and overall inflation — as well as investments in our energy security for the future.”

It was not clear what had changed Mr. Manchin’s mind since he said not even two weeks ago that he could not support such a package until he saw inflation numbers for July, which are not scheduled to be issued for two more weeks. But quiet negotiations had resumed between Mr. Manchin, Mr. Schumer and their staffs in recent days, according to a person familiar with the talks.

The abrupt announcement came only hours after passage of a huge industrial policy bill aimed at bolstering American competitiveness with China that Senator Mitch McConnell, Republican of Kentucky and the minority leader, had said he would never support as long as Democrats continued their efforts to push through their marquee domestic policy bill over G.O.P. opposition. But that legislation still needs to clear the House, and Republican leaders in that chamber said they would instruct their ranks to oppose it after news of the deal.

With the Senate divided 50 to 50 and Republicans uniformly opposed, Democrats need unanimous support within their party and the tiebreaking vote of Vice President Kamala Harris to pass the plan under special rules that shield certain budget bills from a filibuster. Mr. Manchin’s resistance has been the primary obstacle to doing so all along, handing him effective veto power over its contents — and the final say over whether any measure could pass the Senate.

### AT: Bill not key

#### UQ--- Democrats need the bill to pass

Dan **Balz 6/30**. Dan Balz is chief correspondent at The Washington Post. He joined The Post in 1978 and has been involved in political coverage as a reporter or editor throughout his career. He is the author of several books, including two bestsellers. He is a regular panelist on PBS’s “Washington Week” and is a frequent guest on the Sunday morning talk shows and other public affairs programs. 6/30/2022. “The climate bill offers a boost to Biden. Can it change the equation?” https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/07/30/climate-bill-midterms-sundaytake/

Passage of the climate bill would give Biden and Democratic candidates something tangible to talk about this fall, and the bill’s title — the Inflation Reduction Act — shows just how much Democrats need an antidote to the high cost of gasoline, food and many other products. Lawrence Summers, the former treasury secretary whose warnings in 2021 that the Biden spending initiatives risked triggering inflation were largely dismissed by the White House, has weighed in on the Schumer-Manchin package. He says it likely will help lower the rate of inflation (though he still worries about a possible recession).

## Link

### 2NC---L---Delay

#### The bill is time-sensitive and has to pass urgently. The plan delays the bill from passing.

Rachel Frazin 7/28/22, Energy and Environment Reporter for The Hill, 7/28/2022, “Manchin-Schumer deal could be historic win on climate change,” [**https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/3578676-manchin-schumer-deal-could-be-historic-win-on-climate-change/**](https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/3578676-manchin-schumer-deal-could-be-historic-win-on-climate-change/) - Jinrong

The deal crafted by Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) and Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) would result in historic investments in combating climate change if the package is signed into law by President Biden.

Climate activists, who earlier this month were in despair after Manchin seemingly torpedoed an earlier deal, generally have praised the new agreement as a meaningful step in protecting the planet — even if it would still leave plenty of more work to do.

“It’s going to be the largest climate investment in American history by far,” Leah Stokes, an environmental politics professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara, told The Hill.

The bill also comes as Democrats have little time to spare. With Republicans favored to win back the House majority in the fall, losing an opportunity to pass meaningful climate legislation with Democrats in the White House and holding power in the House and Senate would be devastating.

Meanwhile, scientists have warned that time is limited for the world to get global climate change under control.

“It’s a **make-or-break moment** for a livable planet, and we have to get this bill over the finish line,” Stokes added.

#### It’s urgent to pass this bill before August recess

Zach Cohen 7/28/22, Emily Wilkins, Zach Cohen is National Journal’s Senate correspondent. Zach’s reporting has been published by The Washington Post, The Atlantic, TIME Magazine, USA Today, and more. He has also appeared on C-SPAN, Fox News, CBSN, and SiriusXM; Emily Wilkins is an award-winning congressional reporter covering the House, Senate and campaigns for Bloomberg Government, 7/28/2022, “August Recess Start Date in the Air as Senators Await Ruling,” [**https://about.bgov.com/news/august-recess-start-date-in-the-air-as-senators-await-ruling/**](https://about.bgov.com/news/august-recess-start-date-in-the-air-as-senators-await-ruling/)

The Senate’s planned departure date next week is in question, as Democrats push to pass a tax, climate, and health care bill through the budget reconciliation process beforeleavingtownuntilSeptember.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (N.Y.) told fellow Democrats at a caucus meeting Thursday to prepare to work through next weekend, according to Sen. Tim Kaine (D-Va.). That would cancel at least the first couple of days of August recess — not that Democrats, who are enthusiastic about achieving more of President Joe Biden’s agenda, were complaining.

“Congress should stay in session as long as it takes to getthisbillto **President** Biden’s desk,” Sen. John Hickenlooper (D-Colo.) said.

The exact timing for passing the bill (H.R. 5376) is being driven by the factors necessary to use the extensive process, which requires only a simple majority, and by potential Covid-19 infections, which hit the Democratic caucus again Thursday when Majority Whip Dick Durbin (Ill.) announced he’d tested positive.

Senators are aiming for a shorter ruling timeline on the package’s expansive new provisions. Manchin said negotiators aimed to get text finalized by Wednesday night to give the parliamentarian enough time to comb through the bill and for senators to approve it before **the** Saturday of the first weekend of recess.

Schumer sounded optimistic about that timeline as of Thursday afternoon.

“I expect the remaining work with the parliamentarian will be completed in the coming days, **and** the **Senate will vote on this transformative legislation** next week,” Schumer said at a news conference.

The clock started Wednesday night when Schumer submitted to **Senate Parliamentarian** Elizabeth **MacDonough** the text of the 725-page spending and deficit-reduction package, which Schumer agreed to hours earlier with Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.).

MacDonough **and her staff must pore over the details** to make sure it comports with statutory rules that would allow Democrats to approve the legislation without the support of Republicans in the evenly divided chamber.

**Democrats are** still **awaiting a response** from MacDonough related **to the** previously submitted **drug** pricing **provisions**. That process has taken weeks as Democratic staff went back-and-forth with MacDonough and Republican staff over how the legislation complies with the rules.

Assuming Democrats can get all 50 members of the caucus to support the bill, senators will have to endure a marathon session known as a vote-a-rama, when any member can force a vote on amendments, before sending the bill to the House.

When Democrats last passed a budget reconciliation bill (Public Law 117-2), senators voted for 12 straight hours, overnight, to dispense with dozens of Republican amendments.

“I expect **it’s going to be** hectic next week,” **Senate** Finance Chair Ron **Wyden** (D-Ore.) **said**.

Whatever the **Senate** passes would **need to be approved by the House**, **which is scheduled to leave for its** August recess Friday**.** House members are expecting to return for a short session in August for votes, but it’s unclear when.

**A key date** to watch **is** Aug. 9, **when Minnesota** **holds** a special **election** to replace the late Jim Hagedorn (R). A **Republican is favored to win**, and **once sworn in would shrink the Democrats’ margin. That would mean any more than three no votes from their caucus could sink the bill**.

The difference might be more consequential for other legislation that could also receive votes next month. House Democrats are continuing to negotiate a package of public safety bills, including some that would provide funding to police departments, and an assault weapons ban (H.R. 1808).

### 2NC---L---Security Coop

#### NATO security cooperation crashes into partisan infighting---costs Biden PC, even without a vote in Congress.

Matthew Kendrick 21, reporter at Morning Consult covering geopolitics and foreign affairs, “Biden Says America Is Back. 2022 Will Put That Premise to the Test,” Morning Consult, 12-21-2021, [**https://morningconsult.com/2021/12/21/global-look-ahead-2022/**](https://morningconsult.com/2021/12/21/global-look-ahead-2022/)

“The big question has been whether or not the Trump years were an interregnum or a dangerous foreshadowing of things to come,” said Stewart M. Patrick, director of the International Institutions and Global Governance program at the Council on Foreign Relations. “And **because of the complete breakdown of any bipartisanship in the U.S.**, **allies and partners are hedging** their bets.”

Europe: Trying to win without fighting

**The past several weeks of high-stakes diplomacy over the Russian military buildup on its border with Ukraine have been perhaps the premier example of how Washington would** like **to conduct diplomacy** with American allies. Biden orchestrated a complex web of summits with the major NATO powers, the coalition’s easternmost members known as the Bucharest Nine and his Ukrainian and Russian counterparts to impose a credible threat of sanctions that seem to have taken the temperature down for the moment. **However, the** American **president** also **signaled there was a** limit **to the** degree of military commitment **Washington was prepared to shoulder** to deter Moscow, and that he would be open to accommodation.

Paul B. Stares, director of CFR’s Center for Preventive Action, said “that sent alarm bells ringing that the U.S. really wasn’t fully committed to the security of states on NATO’s front line, or might compromise certain things in order to avoid war.”

In addition to the Ukraine crisis, experts pointed to two more key areas to watch that will have a “profound bearing” on European allies’ confidence in American security commitments: China’s increasingly assertive foreign policy and talks to resume the Iran nuclear accord. With regard to China, where European powers see fewer direct threats and more economic opportunities, Washington faces more challenges in lining up a united front.

“Certain European countries share the administration’s more hawkish view, but others are really leery of getting involved in a confrontation with China,” said Patrick.

The recent kerfuffle over the canceled sale of French submarines to Australia was a missed opportunity to move European and American interests in Asia into greater alignment, according to experts interviewed for this article. Multiple sources also noted that worries about **ongoing** political gridlock **in** Washington **make** European politicians wary **of putting** all their eggs **in** America’s basket. After all, they might need to trade with China if another U.S. president should echo Trump’s protectionist policies in the future.

Political gridlock also hampers progress on the issue that is perhaps the greatest cause for concern: the seemingly moribund talks to resume the 2015 nuclear accord with Iran.

“It’s very difficult for the U.S. to make credible commitments that Iran will believe, because the Republicans have said, flatly, they’re going to blow up everything that they can to block any restoration of the nuclear agreement,” said Justin Logan, a senior fellow at the Cato Institute.

And because sanctions on Tehran are already among the tightest in the world, it’s not clear what credible options Washington might have to prevent Iran from gaining nuclear weapons short of military action in the eventuality that diplomacy fails, which experts agreed would not be supported by the European powers. Stares said he worries that a nuclear Iran could spur neighboring states to develop their own nuclear deterrents, as it would be the fourth country to openly violate the principles of nonproliferation.

Latin America: Will Biden put money where his mouth is?

Former Mexican Foreign Secretary Jorge Castañeda said the Biden administration, like that of his predecessor, has focused on migration at the expense of several pressing issues in Latin America, and he doesn’t think much of its premier program aiming to mitigate migration in the region by raising private investment in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.

“If the private sector wanted to invest there, they would have already done it,” Castañeda said. “They wouldn’t be waiting for Vice President Harris to call and ask them for pledges.”

The United States is scheduled to host the Summit of the Americas this summer, and Castañeda thinks this would be the perfect forum to put forth plans to address a series of issues alongside partners in Latin America, including climate change, human rights, institutional corruption, diplomatic normalization with Cuba and pathways to address Venezuela’s multiple crises.

Even if the administration remains focused almost exclusively on migration, Castañeda said stale policy refrains need to be reassessed: “Can you imagine somebody saying they were in favor of disorderly, irregular and unsafe migration? Obviously not. It’s silly, frankly, and there’s a lot of things that Biden could do, but he’s so scared of the electoral consequences that he won’t.”

The White House did not respond to a request for comment.

India: A promising start to a long journey

In India, Biden found relations in a much better place than where he left them as vice president, as New Delhi’s fears of an increasingly aggressive China led it to make major strides in deepening ties to the other members of the so-called Quad — Japan, Australia and the United States — after the defunct group, originally proposed in 2007, was revived a decade later. However, former Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, who currently serves as president and CEO of Asia Society, a global nonprofit, said the White House should keep in mind that it is very far from achieving the level of cooperation and capability it would like with New Delhi.

Observers looking to gauge the depth of the U.S.-India strategic relationship as the next year unfolds should keep an eye on efforts from the White House to enhance bilateral trust and Indian military might, as well as New Delhi’s receptiveness toward such overtures. However, such receptiveness could only provide a limited sense of progress, Rudd noted, with the real degree of improvement only measured in the context of an actual conflict.

“If there was a crisis in the South China Sea tomorrow, what would Japan do, what would Australia do and what would India do, militarily?” he asked, adding that, for New Delhi, deployment to active-conflict zones is “something currently at the outer reaches of the parameters of the possible.”

Tanvi Madan, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, said India is also “hedging against uncertainty about the U.S.” and pursuing defense arrangements with a number of states to better prepare against threats like China. That’s why observers shouldn’t fail to note where India deepens other bilateral relations, even with U.S. rivals, as exemplified by the recent summit between Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin, and the Indian military’s acquisition of more Russian hardware.

In response to American complaints about this deal, Indian officials have pointed out that increasing the country’s defense capacity does not harm shared interests. Madan added that not only does Moscow offer New Delhi weapons that Washington can’t or won’t, but completely undoing ties with Russia would also severely hamper the Indian military’s ability to maintain its existing stock of equipment and present a credible deterrent to Beijing.

“It’s not about poking the U.S. in the eye,” she said, adding that New Delhi has an interest in putting political “daylight between Russia and China” as India seeks to avoid isolating Moscow and forcing the formation of a Sino-Russian bloc.

Asia-Pacific: It’s the (Chinese) economy, stupid

Experts agreed that the key factor in the course of the American alliance system in Asia is the Chinese economy, which could give the United States a unique opening given China’s current market struggles.

“If ever there was a strategic opportunity for the United States to re-enter the geoeconomic field, it’s now, as the Chinese economy begins to soften,” said Rudd.

Neighboring powers need trade with China to support their economies, and Beijing hopes to use this imperative to anchor regional influence over the long term regardless of whatever steps Washington might take to draw countries out of China’s orbit. The experts we spoke to agreed that Biden could seriously stymie China’s gambit for economic dominance by deepening commercial ties in the region, perhaps by creating or joining a massive free trade pact among regional powers such as the new iteration of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, created after the United States walked away from a similar accord in early 2017. It’s worth mentioning that the purpose of the original TPP was, in part, to curb China’s economic advantages.

And it’s about more than just money, said Weifeng Zhong, a senior research fellow at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University. Signing trade agreements with states that feel caught between Beijing and Washington gives the United States skin in the game, so to speak, and signals commitment to the defense of allies more effectively than rhetoric alone. Zhong even suggested an American trade agreement with the Taiwanese government could help deter an attack from the mainland.

**The** question, in Asia as elsewhere, **is** whether the Biden administration has the political capital at home to advance bold policy abroad.

#### There’s huge opposition and backlash that drains PC

Dr. Richard Hanania 20, Research Fellow at the Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies at Columbia University, PhD from UCLA, JD from the University of Chicago, “Trump’s Desire to Withdraw US Troops From Germany Could Get Bogged Down in the DC Process Game”, 6/12/2020, [**https://responsiblestatecraft.org/2020/06/12/trumps-withdraw-us-troops-germany-bogged-down-in-the-washington-process-game/**](https://responsiblestatecraft.org/2020/06/12/trumps-withdraw-us-troops-germany-bogged-down-in-the-washington-process-game/)

A more drawn-out process to bring the troops home from Germany or anywhere else would be unlikely to reveal any relevant new information — but would provide an opportunity for opponents of the policy to try and sabotage it by bureaucratically outmaneuvering the president and raising the political costs of withdrawal. Already on Tuesday, nearly two dozen Republican lawmakers sent a letter to the White House urging it to change course. The more time they are given until the decision is implemented, the more concentrated interests will have time to raise the political costs of changing the status quo.

Since the end of the Cold War, multiple American presidents have come into office skeptical of certain aspects of U.S. foreign policy. Nonetheless, they have mostly grown the military budget, increased commitments abroad, and avoided fundamental changes that would leave behind a less militarized foreign policy.

One of the reasons for this is institutional. Many in Washington oppose a more restrained U.S. foreign policy. Cautious leaders focused on their own approval ratings and mindful of their political capital face risks by telegraphing their intentions too early, or subjecting their decisions to a long “process.”

### AT: public love NATO or NATO has bipartisan support

#### NATO support is overwhelmingly partisan

Jonathan Bernstein 22, Former professor of political science at the University of Texas at San Antonio and DePauw University, “Are Republicans Turning Against NATO?” Washington Post, 4/7/22, [**https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/are-republicans-turning-against-nato/2022/04/07/46c1e36e-b66f-11ec-8358-20aa16355fb4\_story.html**](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/are-republicans-turning-against-nato/2022/04/07/46c1e36e-b66f-11ec-8358-20aa16355fb4_story.html)

When it came to public policy, Donald Trump’s presidency was marked by repeated defeats whenever he attempted to take on Republican orthodoxy. When he championed tax cuts, the party was right there with him. When he urged massive spending for infrastructure, they ignored him. On several foreign-policy questions, including Trump’s antagonism toward NATO, congressional Republicans actively opposed him.Those foreign-policy issues reflected the enduring triumph of Dwight Eisenhower. Republicans were always anti-communists. But **before Ike, conservatives had** also **been isolationists, preferring that the U.S. stay out of the world, and especially out of long-term alliances**. Harry Truman had worked with internationalist Republicans in Congress to commit the U.S. to the United Nations, NATO, the Marshall Plan, and more, but the rank and file was less than comfortable with all of that, and it wasn’t at all clear where a Republican president would take the party. In fact, Eisenhower only narrowly won the Republican nomination in 1952, defeating the conservative wing of a party that was desperate after losing five consecutive presidential elections and happy to have a war hero leading the ticket. Eisenhower’s popular and effective two-term presidency moved isolationism to the fringe. His vice president, Richard Nixon, followed his lead during his own presidency. Even when conservatives fully took control of the party with the election of Ronald Reagan, the old isolationist impulse was reduced to occasional UN-bashing. There were plenty of real differences on foreign policy between the parties during the Cold War, but Ike’s presidency put Republicans firmly on the side of an active continuing role for the U.S. in world affairs, including participation in a series of alliances and agreements. Indeed, that commitment outlasted the Cold War. **Trump** didn’t care much about public policy when he was president. But he **did undermine** this **internationalist consensus**, even using the old “America First” slogan from an isolationist (and anti-Semitic) movement from the 1930s. And while he had little success actually implementing his foreign-policy preferences — as he was repeatedly rolled by Congress, the bureaucracy and allied nations — it’s quite possible he could have the last laugh. Earlier this week, an astonishing 63 **House Republicans opposed a resolution supporting NATO**. That’s still not a full third of the Republican conference, but it’s not exactly a tiny fringe, either. To be fair, some of those objecting claimed to oppose the non-binding, symbolic resolution because of some of its specific wording rather than because they opposed the alliance — but **quite a few seem to be wary of the whole concept of an alliance of democracies against authoritarianism**. **These lawmakers are** only **reflecting where their party appears to be heading**. In two recent polls, **strong minorities of Republicans** — 40% of respondents in one survey — **supported leaving the alliance altogether**. If a Republican committed to the old consensus wins the 2024 nomination and is elected president, I’d expect all of that to dissipate pretty rapidly. Both parties will once again be strong supporters of NATO in particular and of the general overarching direction of U.S. foreign policy since the 1940s. But if Trump is nominated, and especially if he wins the presidency, it’s hard to see the party working as hard to constrain his foreign-policy choices as it once did. And if Democrats remain in the White House for another four years (or more)? **It’s easy to imagine partisan polarization extending into this area**, as it has so many others, **with Republicans automatically opposing whatever it is that Democratic presidents are doing — including participation in the alliances** that Eisenhower, Nixon, Gerald Ford, Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and George W. Bush all strongly supported. Preventing that result would require strong, responsible leadership from Republican politicians. I’m not optimistic that will happen.

## Political Capital

### 2NC---IL PC Key

#### PC is key – Biden’s leadership is necessary to overcome sticking points and coalescing the caucus

Tankersley and **Cochrane 2021**, White House correspondent with a focus on economic policy. He has written for more than a decade in Washington about the decline of opportunity for American workers, and is the author of "The Riches of This Land: The Untold, True Story of America's Middle Class." @jimtankersley Emily Cochrane is a reporter in the Washington bureau, covering Congress. She was raised in Miami and graduated from the University of Florida. (Jim and Emily, “Biden, Needing a Win, Enters a Sprint for His Economic Agenda,” *New York Times*, [**https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/25/business/economy/biden-infrastructure-bill.html**](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/25/business/economy/biden-infrastructure-bill.html)) - Maha

**Many steps remain before** Mr. **Biden can sign both bills into law** — but his party has given itself only a few weeks to complete them. **The infrastructure bill is written. But the House and Senate must agree on** the spending **programs**, **revenue** increases **and** overall **cost** of the larger bill, **balancing the desires of progressives** who see a generational chance to expand government to address inequality and curb climate change **and moderates** who have pushed for a smaller package and resisted some of the tax proposals to pay for it. It is a timeline reminiscent of what Republicans set for themselves in the fall of 2017, when they rushed a nearly $2 trillion package of tax cuts to President Donald J. Trump’s desk without a single Democratic vote. **Sticking to it will require sustained support from administration officials** both in and out of Washington. In the first three weeks of August, Mr. **Biden** dispatched cabinet members to 31 states to barnstorm for the infrastructure bill and his broader economic agenda, with events in the districts of moderate and progressive members of Congress, according to internal documents obtained by The New York Times. His secretaries of transportation, labor, interior, energy, commerce and agriculture sat for dozens of local television and radio interviews to promote the bills. Even with those efforts, **the initial clash over** advancing **the budget** this week **was resolved with a flurry of calls from** Mr. **Biden**, top White House officials and senior Democrats to the competing factions in the House. Congressional leaders say they have spent months laying the groundwork so that their party can move quickly toward consensus. Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California told colleagues in a letter on Wednesday that “we have long had an eye to having the infrastructure bill on the president’s desk by the Oct. 1,” the date when many provisions in the bipartisan package are slated to go into effect. Committee leaders have been instructed to finish their work by Sept. 15, and rank-and-file lawmakers have been told to make their concerns and priorities known quickly as they maneuver through substantive policy disagreements, including whether it should be as much as $3.5 trillion and the scope of Mr. Biden’s proposed tax increases. “I’m sure everybody’s going to try their best,” said Representative John Yarmuth of Kentucky, the House Budget Committee chairman. “Some committees will have it rougher than others.” Senator Ron Wyden of Oregon, the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, has been releasing discussion drafts of proposals to fund the $3.5 trillion budget reconciliation spending — the larger bill that Democrats plan to move without any Republican support — including raising taxes on high earners and businesses. On Wednesday, he provided granular details of a plan to increase taxes on the profits that multinational companies earn and book overseas. “I’m encouraged by where we are,” Mr. Wyden said in an interview. Democratic leaders and the White House have pushed analyses of their proposals that speak to core liberal priorities; on Wednesday, Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, the majority leader, released a report suggesting the two bills combined would “put our country on the path to meet President Biden’s climate change goals of 80 percent clean electricity and 50 percent economywide carbon emission reduction by 2030.” White House economists released a detailed report this week claiming the spending Mr. Biden supports, like universal prekindergarten and subsidized child care, would expand the productive capacity of the economy and help reduce price pressures in the future. While Republicans are not expected to get on board with the larger spending bill, they are still making their concerns known, labeling the bill socialist and a spending spree and claiming it will stoke inflation and drive jobs overseas. Mr. **Biden can pass the entire agenda now with only Democratic votes, but the party’s thin majorities** — **including no room for even a single defection** in the Senate — **complicates the task**. Ms. Pelosi said on Wednesday that the House would “write a bill with the Senate, because there’s no use our doing a bill that is not going to pass the Senate, in the interest of getting things done.” As part of an agreement to secure the votes needed to approve the $3.5 trillion budget blueprint on Tuesday, Ms. Pelosi gave centrist and conservative Democrats a commitment that she would only take up a reconciliation package that had the support of all 50 Senate Democrats and cleared the strict Senate rules that govern the fast-track process. “I’m not here to pass messaging bills — I’m here to pass bills that will actually become law and help the American people,” said Representative Stephanie Murphy of Florida, one of the Democrats who initially announced that she would not support advancing the budget, but ultimately joined every Democrat in advancing it. For moderates, Ms. Pelosi’s commitment served to shield them from potentially tough votes on provisions that the Senate may reject. It also signaled the **political** realitie**s** that **could shape the final legislation**. No Democrat will want to vote on a large spending bill doomed for failure. **It will be** Mr. **Biden’s job to lead his coalition to a bill that can pass** muster **with moderates and progressives** alike — and to convince every holdout that failure is not an option.

### AT: Biden has no PC

#### Biden has the votes – he’s in advanced talks with congressional leaders and Manchin

**Jacobs 6/17**/22, [Jennifer and Josh Wingrove, Bloomberg News, “Biden Team Negotiates Fresh Economic Plan as Inflation Antidote” June 17, 2022 [**https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-06-17/biden-team-negotiates-fresh-economic-plan-as-inflation-antidote**](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-06-17/biden-team-negotiates-fresh-economic-plan-as-inflation-antidote) dmr - Maha

**The White House and congressional Democrats are in advanced talks on legislation** that aims **to fight inflation, rein in the deficit and revive parts of** President Joe **Biden’s** stalled **economic agenda**. The contours of a potential deal remain under negotiation, but **the package would likely include capping the price of insulin -- a key medicine for diabetics -- and federal investments in both clean energy and fossil fuels**, according to people briefed on the talks. It would also further reduce the budget deficit and boost taxes on the wealthy, corporations or both, they said. **An agreement could come together as soon as next week**, two people said, though others were more cautious, noting many details remain to be resolved. Climate provisions are a particularly tricky area, and differences could still scotch a deal, one person said. The people familiar with the talks asked not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the negotiations, in which Senator Joe **Manchin** of West Virginia **plays a central role**. **The president has hinted at a coming agreement, framing the legislation primarily as a move to cool consumer-price increases**, which unexpectedly accelerated to an annual 8.6% in May. Not Everything “I believe **I have the votes to do a number of things,” Biden said** Thursday in an interview with the Associated Press, citing capping insulin costs as an example. “We can reduce it to 35 bucks a month and get it done. We have the votes to do it. We’re going to get that done. I can’t get it all done.” **Democrats are desperate for a policy response to inflation**, which is at a four-decade high and, unless curbed, is all but certain to cost them control of the House, Senate or both in November’s midterm elections. Gasoline, a critical component of the American household budget, costs $5 a gallon on average nationwide, according to the AAA motor club, and hit a record earlier this month. Seeking to quell the surge in living costs, the Federal Reserve accelerated its monetary-tightening campaign this week, executing the biggest interest-rate hike since 1994. The moves have driven fresh losses on Wall Street and increased the odds of a recession that would only compound Biden’s political troubles. Biden ordered a record release from the nation’s oil reserves earlier this year to try to curb gasoline prices, but to little effect. Now, he’s looking to help households save money on everyday needs like drugs, utilities and internet access, and by cutting the government’s budget deficit, which reached a record $3.13 trillion in fiscal 2020, during the pandemic. **The president sought to cut drug prices and raise taxes on the wealthy in last year’s** economic plan, called **Build Back Better, which Manchin killed** in December by saying he’d vote against it. Democrats need all 50 of their Senate caucus members to pass legislation in the 100-seat chamber under the so-called budget-reconciliation process, which can bypass a Republican filibuster. The White House for months has refused to publicly comment on any talks with Manchin. The West Virginia senator bristled at White House statements late last year as he, other Democrats and the president’s aides negotiated. The relationship between the White House and Manchin was so damaged in the aftermath of that chapter that some White House officials still avoid saying his name aloud. Other Elements “**The president remains engaged with Congress. This is an important part of his economic agenda**,” Cecilia Rouse, chair of the White House Council of Economic Advisers, said Friday at the White House. Along with the new legislation, Biden has recently touted a provision of the infrastructure law enacted last year that offers full rebates for some home-internet plans for low-income households. He’s also urged Congress to pass separate legislation that would encourage domestic manufacturing of semiconductors to help ease global shortages that have contributed to rising prices for cars and consumer electronics. Together, he argues the measures would provide Americans a counterbalance for higher food and gasoline prices. The administration is also clamoring for new Covid funding from Congress, but as of now there are no plans to roll that into any reconciliation deal, two of the people said. Senate Duo **Biden met** Wednesday with Senate Majority Leader Chuck **Schumer and** House Speaker Nancy **Pelosi**, with the trio **discussing next steps on a fresh bill to pass through the reconciliation process. The White House called the measure their “shared agenda of tackling inflation and lowering prices and transitioning from a historic economic recovery to stable, steady growth”** in a statement on the meeting. The talks have largely narrowed to two men: Schumer and Manchin. The basis for their discussions is legislation the House passed last year that would raise federal revenue by $1.5 trillion over a decade, one person said. White House spokespeople didn’t immediately respond to a request for comment on the talks. A person familiar with **Manchin’s** thinking said he is **continuing to negotiate with Schumer**, and hasn’t set a July 4 deadline for reaching a deal. The person said energy and climate is just one of the issues still being worked on. The House bill included a surtax on wealthy Americans, expanded levies on investments, had a 15% minimum rate for corporations and a tax on stock buybacks. Savings in drug costs could push so-called pay-fors in the bill to $1.8 trillion over a decade. Manchin has insisted that at least half of the new tax revenue in the bill go to reducing the deficit. Energy Components Senator Kyrsten Sinema, however, has signaled objections to many tax increases, leaving unclear which revenue measures might make a final agreement. The Arizona Democrat this week said she’s focused on talks on new gun-safety legislation. Energy provisions remain among the sticking points in the negotiations on the reconciliation bill, with Manchin -- whose state still produces much of the nation’s coal supply -- advocating for fossil-fuel suppliers. **Proponents of the legislation are aiming for a deal soon that can pass before members of Congress leave for their annual August recess.**

**After that, lawmakers will have little time to legislate as they focus on their re-election campaigns.**

#### Biden has PC on inflation – his outside game is securing traction

**Weissert & Miller 6-18**-22 [Will Weissert is an AP National Political Reporter, Zeke Miller is a past President of the White House Correspondents Association and a White House reporter for the Associated Press. "Biden's optimism collides with mounting political challenges", AP NEWS, [**https://apnews.com/20fc7ddf3789332c914da0709b3db3a7**](https://apnews.com/20fc7ddf3789332c914da0709b3db3a7)] GBS-HW - Maha

WASHINGTON (AP) — **Democrats are going to hold onto the House after November’s midterm elections**. They will pick up as many as four seats in the Senate, expanding their majority and Overcoming internal dissent that has helped stifle their agenda. **As the challenges confronting President Joe Biden intensify, his predictions of a rosy political future for the Democratic Party are growing bolder.** The assessments, delivered in speeches, fundraisers and conversations with friends and allies, seem at odds with a country that he acknowledged this week was “really, really down,” burdened by a pandemic, surging gas prices and spiking inflation. **Biden’s hopeful outlook tracks with a sense of optimism that has coursed through his nearly five-decade career and was at the center of his 2020 presidential campaign**, which he said was built around restoring the “soul of America.” In a lengthy Oval Office interview with The Associated Press on Thursday, **Biden said part of his job as president is to “be confident.”** “Because I am confident,” he said. “**We are better positioned than any country in the world to own the second quarter of the 21st century**. That’s not hyperbole. That’s a fact.” While presidents often try to emphasize the positive, there is a risk in this moment that Biden contributes to a dissonance between Washington and people across the country who are confronting genuine and growing economic pain. Few of Biden’s closest political advisers are as bullish about the party’s prospects as the president. In interviews with a half-dozen people in and close to the White House, there is a broad sense that Democrats will lose control of Congress and that many of the party’s leading candidates in down-ballot races and contests for governor will be defeated, with Biden unable to offer much help. The seeming disconnect between Biden’s view and the political reality has some in the party worried the White House has not fully grasped just how bad this election year may be for Democrats. “I don’t expect any president to go out and say, ’You know what, ‘We’re going to lose the next election,’” said Will Marshall, president and founder of the Progressive Policy Institute, which is in regular contact with the White House’s policy team. What might serve Biden well instead, Marshall said, would be “a sober sense of, ’Look, we’re probably in for a rough night in November and our strategy should be to remind the country what’s at stake.’” The White House is hardly ignoring the problem. After years in which Democrats have operated in political silos, there is a greater focus on marshaling resources. Jen O’Malley Dillon, Biden’s 2020 campaign manager who now serves as one of his deputy chiefs of staff, runs the political team from the West Wing along with Emmy Ruiz, a longtime Texas-based Democratic political consultant. O’Malley Dillon coordinates strategy among the White House, the Democratic National Committee and an array of outside party groups. Cedric Richmond, a former Louisiana congressman who co-chaired Biden’s 2020 campaign and was one of his closest White House advisers, left for a job with the DNC in April. He characterized the move as underscoring the administration’s full grasp of the importance of the midterms. “We understand that you cannot govern if you can’t win,” Richmond said in an interview. “We are treating it with that sense of urgency.” The president’s political message is being honed by Mike Donilon, a longtime Biden aide who is a protector of Biden’s public image, and veteran party strategist Anita Dunn, who is returning to the White House for a second stint. Richmond praised Dunn’s political instincts and said he believes she will team with O’Malley Dillion, White House chief of staff Ron Klain and others to promote messaging that many in their own party may underestimate. **“If I had a penny for every time Democrats counted Joe Biden or Kamala Harris out, I’d be independently wealthy,”** Richmond said. Biden turned to Dunn during an especially low political moment in February 2020, giving her broad control of his then-cash strapped presidential campaign as it appeared on the brink of collapse after a disastrous fourth-place showing in the Iowa caucus. Barely a week later, Biden left New Hampshire before its primary polls had even closed, ultimately finishing fifth. But he took second in Nevada, won South Carolina handily and saw the Democratic establishment rally around him at breakneck speed in mere days after that. O’Malley Dillon then joined the campaign and oversaw Biden’s general election victory. A similar reversal of political fortune may be necessary now. But where White House officials last year harbored hopes that voters could be convinced of Biden’s accomplishments and reverse their dismal outlook on the national direction, aides now acknowledge that such an uphill battle is no longer worth fighting. Instead, **they have pushed the president to be more open about his own frustrations — particularly on inflation — to show voters that he shares their concerns and to cast Republicans and their policies as obstacles to addressing these issues.** Though he has increasingly expressed anger about inflation, **Biden has publicly betrayed few concerns about his party’s fortunes this fall. opting instead for relentlessly positivity**. “I think there are at least four seats that are up for grabs that we could pick up in the Senate,” the president told a recent gathering of donors in Maryland. “And we’re going to keep the House.” Biden meant Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, with potential longer shots in North Carolina or Florida possibly representing No. 4. Some aides admit that assessment is too optimistic. They say the president is simply seeking to fire up his base with such predictions. One openly laughed when asked if it was possible that Democrats could pick up four Senate seats. The party’s chances of maintaining House control may be bleaker. Still, Tim Persico, executive director of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, which is charged with defending the party’s narrow majority, said Biden remains an asset. **“We love when the president is speaking to the country,”** Persico said. **“There’ll always be frustrations. I totally get that. But I think he’s his own best messenger.”**

## Climate Impact

### Climate O/V (short)

#### The bill passes but Biden needs PC and time that the plan saps, preventing the bill from solving climate change and extinction.

#### Weigh magnitude first – no other impact matters if we stop existing. Climate change causes societal collapse that kills the entire planet, plus structural impacts that happen now.

#### Disad turns the case---{xxx}

### Climate O/V (long)

#### The bill will pass with the Manchin compromise but Biden still needs to convince Sinema before the August recess. The plan delays and saps Biden’s already drained PC. That’s Fram and Jacobs. The IRA invests billions into clean energy and climate-friendly ag, boosting US credibility and preventing catastrophic climate change. That’s Stephanie.

#### We outweigh on all fronts and you should weigh magnitude first. No other impact matters if it threatens existence and our ability to solve. Climate change is a threat multiplier that causes a laundry list of impacts including biodiversity loss, food and water shortages, and damage to infrastructure, all leading to societal collapse and extinction. Even without extinction, current impacts like oil fields on public lands and disparate health impacts outweigh on probability and timeframe.

### 2NC---Warming XTI

#### Warming causes extinction---turns war impacts---expert consensus is neg

**Weston** 1/13/**21** (Phoebe Weston is a biodiversity writer for the Guardian, “Top scientists warn of ‘ghastly future of mass extinction’ and climate disruption”, The Guardian, <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/jan/13/top-scientists-warn-of-ghastly-future-of-mass-extinction-and-climate-disruption-aoe>, AP.)

**The planet is facing a “ghastly future of mass extinction, declining health and climate-disruption upheavals” that threaten human survival because of ignorance and inaction, according to an international group of scientists,** who warn people still haven’t grasped the urgency of the biodiversity and climate crises.

The **17 experts, including Prof Paul Ehrlich from Stanford University,** author of The Population Bomb, and scientists from Mexico, Australia and the US, say the planet is in a much worse state than most people – even scientists – understood.

**“The scale of the threats to the biosphere and all its lifeforms – including humanity –** is in fact so great that it is difficult to grasp for even well-informed experts,” they write in a report in[Frontiers in Conservation Science](https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fcosc.2020.615419/abstract) which references more than 150 studies detailing the world’s major environmental challenges.

The delay between destruction of the natural world and the impacts of these actions means people do not recognise how vast the problem is, the paper argues. “[The] mainstream is having difficulty grasping the magnitude of this loss, **despite the steady erosion of the fabric of human civilisation.”**

**The report warns that climate-induced mass migrations, more pandemics and conflicts over resources will be inevitable unless urgent action is taken.**

**“Ours is not a call to surrender – we aim to provide leaders with a realistic ‘cold shower’** of the state of the planet that is essential for planning to avoid a ghastly future,” it adds.

#### Climate change is an existential risk

Wingrove et al. 22 (7/20/22, Josh Wingrove is a reoporter covering the White House, Jennifer Dlouhy is an energy and environmental policy reporter, Ari Natter is a reporter whose work focuses on economics, Bloomberg, “President Joe Biden Calls Climate Change an ‘existential threat’ But Stops Short of Declaring an Emergency”, Fortune, <https://fortune.com/2022/07/20/joe-biden-climate-change-existential-threat-emergency/>, AP.)

Provisions Biden unveiled Wednesday include moving to expand wind power generation and the availability of efficient home cooling systems, as well as allocating emergency funding for infrastructure and projects like cooling stations in places facing extreme heat.

But with an eye toward retaining Manchin’s support for some measures, Biden held back on declaring a formal climate emergency—a move that would unlock broad new powers to develop clean power while restricting the extraction and export of fossil fuels. He simply called warming an emergency.

**“Climate change is an existential threat,” Biden said** at a former coal-fired power plant in Massachusetts that’s being re-purposed to support wind power generation.

“Since Congress is not acting as it should—and these guys here are but we’re not getting many Republican votes—**this is an emergency, an emergency, and I will look at it that way**,” he said.

The president is under pressure to meet his campaign promises of aggressive action against climate change without also alienating Manchin, a moderate Democrat whose vote is critical in the evenly divided Senate. The West Virginia lawmaker represents a state rich in coal and natural gas and has drawn much of his own wealth from the coal industry.

The administration hopes to retain Manchin’s support for an important health-care bill that would lower costs for both prescription drugs and Obamacare insurance plans before midterm elections in November. White House National Climate Advisor Gina McCarthy downplayed Manchin’s impact on the rollout.

“I do not know what Congress is anticipating now, or any one senator, but the idea that the president is initiating here is to acknowledge the challenge,” McCarthy told reporters on Air Force One.

White House officials ruled out declaring a formal emergency this week. But it remains under consideration, and Biden hinted that he would soon make the move official.

“**Climate change is an emergency**,” he said. “And in the coming weeks **I’m going to use the power I have as president to turn these words into formal, official government actions through the appropriate proclamations, executive orders and regulatory powers that a president possesses.”**

### 2NC---Warming Real

#### Climate change real – countless of scientists and organizations agree

NASA ND (National Aeronautics and Space Administration is an independent agency of the US federal government responsible for the civil space program, aeronautics research, and space research, “Scientific Consensus: Earth’s Climate is Warming”, NASA, <https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/>, AP.)

It’s important to remember that the focus of scientists is always on the evidence, not on opinions. Scientific [evidence](https://climate.nasa.gov/evidence) continues to show that human activities ([primarily due to the human burning of fossil fuels](https://climate.nasa.gov/causes)) have warmed Earth’s surface and its ocean basins, which in turn have [continued to impact Earth’s climate](https://climate.nasa.gov/effects/). This is based on the weight of over a century of scientific evidence forming the structural backbone of the science and technology underpinning much of our civilization today.

NASA’s climate change website presents the state of scientific knowledge about climate change and honors the role that NASA has played in researching and communicating climate science. This includes citing multiple peer-reviewed studies from research groups across the world.[1](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_1) This approach for assessing and portraying the veracity and consensus of a research result (in this case the scientific consensus on climate change) is consistent with NASA’s scientific research portfolio – namely the reliance on up-to-date peer-reviewed scientific literature.

Multiple studies published in peer-reviewed scientific journals[1](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_1) show that climate-warming trends over the past century are extremely likely due to human activities. In addition, most of the leading scientific organizations worldwide have issued public statements endorsing this position. The following is a partial list of these organizations, along with links to their published statements and a selection of related resources.

**AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES**

**Statement on Climate Change from 18 Scientific Associations**

"Observations throughout the world make it clear that climate change is occurring, and rigorous scientific research demonstrates that the greenhouse gases emitted by human activities are the primary driver." (2009)[2](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_2)

**American Association for the Advancement of Science**

"Based on well-established evidence, about 97% of climate scientists have concluded that human-caused climate change is happening." (2014)[3](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_3)

**American Chemical Society**

"The Earth’s climate is changing in response to increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and particulate matter in the atmosphere, largely as the result of human activities." (2016-2019)[4](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_4)

**American Geophysical Union**

"Based on extensive scientific evidence, it is extremely likely that human activities, especially emissions of greenhouse gases, are the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century. There is no alterative explanation supported by convincing evidence." (2019)[5](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_5)

**American Medical Association**

"Our AMA ... supports the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s fourth assessment report and concurs with the scientific consensus that the Earth is undergoing adverse global climate change and that anthropogenic contributions are significant." (2019)[6](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_6)

**American Meteorological Society**

"Research has found a human influence on the climate of the past several decades ... The IPCC (2013), USGCRP (2017), and USGCRP (2018) indicate that it is extremely likely that human influence has been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-twentieth century." (2019)[7](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_7)

**American Physical Society**

"Earth's changing climate is a critical issue and poses the risk of significant environmental, social and economic disruptions around the globe. While natural sources of climate variability are significant, multiple lines of evidence indicate that human influences have had an increasingly dominant effect on global climate warming observed since the mid-twentieth century." (2015)[8](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_8)

**The Geological Society of America**

"The Geological Society of America (GSA) concurs with assessments by the National Academies of Science (2005), the National Research Council (2011), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2013) and the U.S. Global Change Research Program (Melillo et al., 2014) that global climate has warmed in response to increasing concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO2) and other greenhouse gases ... Human activities (mainly greenhouse-gas emissions) are the dominant cause of the rapid warming since the middle 1900s (IPCC, 2013)." (2015)[9](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_9)

**SCIENCE ACADEMIES**

**International Academies: Joint Statement**

"Climate change is real. There will always be uncertainty in understanding a system as complex as the world’s climate. However there is now strong evidence that significant global warming is occurring. The evidence comes from direct measurements of rising surface air temperatures and subsurface ocean temperatures and from phenomena such as increases in average global sea levels, retreating glaciers, and changes to many physical and biological systems. It is likely that most of the warming in recent decades can be attributed to human activities (IPCC 2001)." (2005, 11 international science academies)[10](https://climate-staging.jpl.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_10)

**U.S. National Academy of Sciences**

"Scientists have known for some time, from multiple lines of evidence, that humans are changing Earth’s climate, primarily through greenhouse gas emissions."[11](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_11)

**U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

**U.S. Global Change Research Program**

"Earth’s climate is now changing faster than at any point in the history of modern civilization, primarily as a result of human activities." (2018, 13 U.S. government departments and agencies)[12](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_12)

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES**

**Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change**

“Warming of the climate system is unequivocal, and since the 1950s, many of the observed changes are unprecedented over decades to millennia. The atmosphere and ocean have warmed, the amounts of snow and ice have diminished, and sea level has risen.”[13](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_13)  
  
“Human influence on the climate system is clear, and recent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases are the highest in history**. Recent climate changes have had widespread impacts on human and natural systems.”**[**14**](https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/#footnote_14)

#### Climate Change Impacts real – occuring as we speak

EarthJustice 7/19/22 (EarthJusitce is nonprofit public interest organization based in the United States dedicated to litigating environmental issues, “How Cllimate Change Is Fueling Extreme Weather”, EarthJustice, <https://earthjustice.org/features/how-climate-change-is-fueling-extreme-weather>, AP.)

Across the globe, extreme weather is becoming the new normal.

* Destructive wildfires
* Deadly heatwaves and drought
* Record hurricanes
* Torrential rains and flooding
* Intense winter storms

From season to season and year to year, weather events that were once rare occurrences are now increasingly commonplace.

Why is this happening?

Human activity is causing rapid changes to our global climate that are contributing to extreme weather conditions.

When fossil fuels are burned for electricity, heat, and transportation, carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas that traps solar radiation, is released into our atmosphere.

Over the past century, massive increases in carbon dioxide, methane, and other greenhouse gas emissions have caused the temperature on our planet to rise. That spike in global temperatures is fueling climate disasters that will only get worse unless we take action. Experts warn that we are running out of time to [dramatically cut pollution to avoid climate catastrophe](https://earthjustice.org/news/press/2021/earthjustice-on-ipcc-report-we-need-bold-action-now-to-avoid-climate-catastrophe).

Read on to learn more, find out what Earthjustice is doing to help the planet change course, and how you can help.

**1. Wildfires burn longer and wider**

Larger fires in hot, dry years

Wildfires have always been a natural part of life in the western United States. However, as this region grows hotter and drier, wildfires are growing in size, ferocity, and speed.

In recent years, California has become ground zero for meteorological turmoil. With record dry, hot conditions across the state, seasonal high winds (known as Diablo in Northern California and Santa Ana in the southern part of the state) caused destructive wildfires to grow and spread at an unprecedented rate.

California wildfires burned [more than 4 million acres](https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/) in 2020 — an area larger than Connecticut — making 2020 the biggest fire season in state history. The [five largest fires on record in California](https://www.sfchronicle.com/california-wildfires/article/LNU-SCU-wildfires-skyrocket-into-top-3-largest-15508881.phphttps:/www.sfchronicle.com/california-wildfires/article/LNU-SCU-wildfires-skyrocket-into-top-3-largest-15508881.php) have occurred in the last three years. The Camp Fire in 2018 — California’s most destructive, and deadliest, wildfire in history — [destroyed an average of one football field worth of land every three seconds and killed 68 people](https://www.cnn.com/2018/11/09/us/california-wildfires-superlatives-wcx/), according to Cal Fire.

And it’s not just California. Oregon, Washington, and Colorado have also seen explosive fires that have forced thousands to evacuate, claimed lives, and destroyed homes and businesses. Experts are warning that widespread drought across the West will fuel another dangerous fire season in 2021.

2**. Extreme heat gets hotter**

Heat waves pose **health risks** and strain our energy system

As global temperatures rise, the hottest temperatures — and the number of areas impacted by extreme heat — are also rising. That means more scorching hot days in more places.

Take the Texas cities of Austin and Houston, for example. Over the past 50 years, Austin has seen the number of days with temperatures above 100°F increase by one month, while Houston has recorded an additional month with temperatures above 95°F. In California, temperatures are estimated to have increased [3°F](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/2018/11/climate-change-california-wildfire/) in the past century.

**Through 2100, scientists predict**[**hotter temperatures and more frequent and intense heat waves**](https://www.ucsusa.org/our-work/global-warming/global-warming-impacts/heat-waves-and-climate-change-what-science-tells-us)**in every region of the U.S., according to the Union of Concerned Scientists.**

Extreme heat increases demand for air conditioning, fueling carbon pollution and putting a strain our energy system that can lead to blackouts. It also poses a serious health threat, especially for the most vulnerable.

**3. Drought conditions persist**

Moisture evaporates from waterbodies and soil

Higher temperatures also lead to drier conditions. When global temperatures rise, moisture evaporates from waterbodies and soil.

Droughts in the U.S. and elsewhere in the world have become more severe and long-lasting thanks to climate change.

In fact, the American West is currently in the midst of a [mega drought](https://www.kqed.org/science/1962273/megadrought-conditions-not-seen-for-400-years-have-returned-to-the-west-scientists-say) that ranks among the worst in the past 1,200 years. Much of the region is currently facing ["extreme" or "exceptional" drought conditions](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/).

**4. Warmer temperatures drive increases in precipitation**

Areas that have historically trended toward heavy precipitation will get wetter

Warmer air increases evaporation, which means that our atmosphere contains an increasing amount of water vapor for storms to sweep up and turn into rain or snow.

Just as drier areas are likely to get drier with rising global temperatures, those areas of the world that have historically trended toward heavy precipitation will only get wetter.

In the contiguous United States, rainfall in 2018 broke records, with an average of 36.2 inches falling over a 12-month period — more than 6 inches above average.

**5. Hurricanes are becoming more intense**

Storm systems draw their energy from warm ocean water

Hurricanes are growing more powerful as global temperatures rise because these storm systems draw their energy from warm ocean water.

[One of the most powerful storms](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/27/us/hurricane-laura-update.html) to ever hit the United States struck the Gulf Coast in August 2020. Hurricane Laura rapidly gained strength over the nearly 90°F waters of the Gulf of Mexico. The Category 4 storm caused catastrophic damage to structures and [suspected chemical fires](https://twitter.com/TheInsiderPaper/status/1298996551256219648?s=20) among the region's petrochemical plants.

In the future, we can expect to see more hurricanes along the lines of Hurricane Laura and 2017’s Hurricane Maria, which devastated the islands of Dominica, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. Officials estimated that 3,000 people died in the aftermath of the catastrophic storm that dropped nearly a quarter of the Puerto Rico’s annual rainfall in one day and unleashed maximum sustained winds of 175 mph.

Hurricane Katrina ripped into the Gulf Coast in August 2005, devastating entire cities and [hitting Black communities like those in low-lying New Orleans parishes](https://ldh.la.gov/assets/docs/katrina/deceasedreports/KatrinaDeaths_082008.pdf) especially hard. The storm claimed more than 1,800 lives, displaced hundreds of thousands of residents, and left behind $161 billion in property damage.

Fifteen years after this costly disaster, our nation remains just as susceptible, if not more so, to the threat of increasingly violent hurricanes. **The 2020 hurricane season shattered records, and**[**experts warn**](https://www.npr.org/2021/05/20/998584767/here-are-noaas-predictions-for-the-2021-atlantic-hurricane-season)**that we’re in for another “above average” hurricane season in 2021.**

**6. Sea level rise causes flooding**

Oceans are warming; land ice is melting

As the planet warms, ocean waters are also warming — and expanding. At the same time, warmer temperatures are causing land ice — think glaciers and ice caps — to melt, which is adding water to the world’s oceans.

As a result, average global sea level has increased eight inches in the last 150 years.

Right now, the Atlantic coast of the United States and the Gulf of Mexico are experiencing some of the highest sea level rise in the world, which, combined with record rainfall, has led to catastrophic flooding.

**7. Winter storms hit harder**

Trapped water vapor leads to heavier snowfall

Even as climate change raises average global temperatures, that doesn’t spell the end of winters. Overall, winters are getting milder and shorter; but recent winters have brought intense snowstorms and record-breaking frost.

While it may seem contradictory, climate change may be contributing to more extreme winter weather. As the warming atmosphere traps water vapor later and later into the year, that precipitation leads to heavier snowfall when the temperatures do drop.

Another factor is the rapidly warming Arctic, which some scientists believe is weakening the jet stream and causing disruptions of [the polar vortex](https://gothamist.com/news/nyc-snowstorms-warming-winter-temperatures-climate-crisis). The polar vortex refers to bands of wind and low air pressure near the North Pole, which normally lock cold air over Arctic. When those bands break down, icy air can escape south in the form of freezing winters.

In 2021, record-breaking snowstorms knocked out power for nearly 4.5 million homes in Texas as icy conditions and heating demands [overwhelmed much of the region’s power supply](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-02-15/how-extreme-cold-turned-into-a-u-s-energy-crisis-quicktake). More than a hundred people died, and the storms caused an estimated $295 billion in damage.

### 2NC---Climate---Structural !

#### Climate disproportionately harms and kills people of color

Jeremy Williams 21, writer for Foreign Policy, 7/21/2021, “The Racial Violence of Climate Change”, https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/07/21/the-racial-violence-of-climate-change/

In September 2016, activists in Britain managed to breach the security of London City Airport and get onto the runway. There, they erected a tripod and locked themselves onto and around it. Flights were disrupted for around six hours, and 131 planes were rerouted before police could dismantle the protest. Nine arrests were made.

The action was carried out by Black Lives Matter U.K. (BLM U.K.), and the banners they laid out on the ground read, “the climate crisis is a racist crisis.” The action was carried out to “highlight the U.K.’s environmental impact on the lives of Black people locally and globally,” BLM U.K. said in a statement. “Black people are the first to die, not the first to fly, in this racist climate crisis.”

Beyond making the connection between climate change and the global inequality of its effects, the protesters’ choice of London City Airport is also significant because it is in the London borough of Newham. London is already the most ethnically diverse city in Britain, and Newham has the smallest percentage of white residents of any local authority in the country, at 29 percent. It is an archetypal “sacrifice zone”—a poorer district with a disproportionate number of Black and Asian residents who put up with more than their fair share of noise and pollution. London City Airport, meanwhile, serves the elite business travelers of London’s financial center. It’s a totemic example of inequality, and its plans to expand further into Newham would later make the airport a target of the climate activist group Extinction Rebellion.

It was perhaps the first time climate and race were connected in the British press, although it was widely misunderstood. “Have you been hijacked?” the BBC asked a BLM U.K. spokesperson. The Daily Mail complained that “all of those involved were white and all from privileged backgrounds,” even though this was a deliberate decision. Even some antiracism campaigners were divided on the protest, wondering if it was a distraction from the real issues. What did flying have to do with Black Lives Matter?

Alexandra Wanjiku Kelbert, one of the protest organizers, explained BLM U.K.’s actions: “When we say Black Lives Matter, we mean all Black lives, and that includes the lives of those who live in proximity to airports, to power plants, to the busiest of roads, and whose children grow up with asthma and skin conditions exacerbated by air pollution.” One particular child comes to mind: Ella Kissi-Debrah. After suffering from respiratory problems for several years, she died in 2013 after a particularly severe asthma attack. She was 9 years old.

Her mother, Rosamund Kissi-Debrah, knew air pollution in their area of London was a factor in her condition and therefore in her death. But as is usually the case, the official cause of death was recorded as asthma. It was only after a long legal case that an inquest ruled in 2020: “Ella died of asthma contributed to by exposure to excessive air pollution.” It was the first time a coroner in the United Kingdom had named air pollution as a cause of death. London’s Black residents face greater exposure to air pollution, and some of the city’s most polluted districts have large Black populations. There is a racial dimension to air pollution in London, another example of environmental injustice and an echo of the Black Lives Matter rallying cry “I can’t breathe.”

Black Lives Matter has mainly been associated with police brutality and mass incarceration along with violence against Black people generally. But in counting the cost of climate change or air pollution, it’s important to recognize that environmental harm is also a form of violence.

#### Climate Change killing people by the minute

**Hersher 22** (Rebecca Hersher (she/her) is a reporter on NPR's Science Desk, where she reports on outbreaks, natural disasters, and environmental and health research, “Climate change is killing people, but there’s still time to reverse the damage”, NPR, /02/28/1082564304/billions-of-people-are-in-danger-from-climate-change-u-n-report-warns)

There have been big advances in climate science since the last report of this kind was published nearly a decade ago. Scientists are now able to see the fingerprints of climate change on individual storms, wildfires and heat waves. Those connections allow epidemiologists, economists and social scientists to study the effects of global warming on human health and well-being.

The results are sobering. "**Climate change has already affected the physical and mental health of many Americans,"** says Sherilee Harper, one of the report authors and a researcher at the University of Alberta in Canada.

For example, climate change is **dangerous for pregnant women**, the report notes for the first time. Wildfire smoke **exacerbates respiratory and cardiovascular disease**. And the trauma of living through a weather disaster can cause **long-term mental health problems.**

The authors return again and again to the deadly effects of heat waves. Around the world, high temperatures are killing people and making them sick.

That is also true in the U.S. "Heat is the No. 1 weather-related killer in the United States," says Juan Declet-Barreto of the Union of Concerned Scientists. "The effects of extreme heat aren't always visible, which is something that makes people forget about them. But they are dangerous precisely because of that relative invisibility."

**Worldwide, poor people, Indigenous people and others who are marginalized are at the highest risk from heat and from the effects of climate change more broadly,** the report notes repeatedly.

"I think we have not done a good enough job focusing on the poor and vulnerable," says Ko Barrett, one of the co-chairs of the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and a top climate official at the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

**In the U.S., poor people and people of color are more likely to live and work in dense urban areas with limited green space where temperatures are significantly higher than the surrounding areas, with**[**disastrous consequences**](https://www.npr.org/2019/09/03/754044732/as-rising-heat-bakes-u-s-cities-the-poor-often-feel-it-most).

Heat waves are particularly dangerous when they hit areas that are historically temperate, such as the Pacific Northwest, where [hundreds of people died](https://www.npr.org/2021/07/02/1012467409/hundreds-are-believed-to-have-died-during-the-pacific-northwest-heat-wave) in a heat wave last summer.

### 2NC---Action Now Key

#### Climate change risks global society and life. Action now is key to avoid catastrophe.

IPCC 22 (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is the US body for asesing sciene regarding climate change and it’s implication and risks, “Climate change: a threat to human wellbeing and health of the planet. Taking action now can secure our future”, IPCC, <https://www.ipcc.ch/2022/02/28/pr-wgii-ar6/>, AP.)

BERLIN, Feb 28 – Human-induced climate change is causing dangerous and widespread disruption in nature and affecting the lives of billions of people around the world, despite efforts to reduce the risks. People and ecosystems least able to cope are being hardest hit, said scientists in the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, released today.

“This report is a dire warning about the consequences of inaction,” said Hoesung Lee, Chair of the IPCC. “It shows that climate change is a grave and mounting threat to our wellbeing and a healthy planet. **Our actions today will shape how people adapt and nature responds to increasing climate risks.”**

The world faces unavoidable multiple climate hazards over the next two decades with global warming of 1.5°C (2.7°F). Even temporarily exceeding this warming level will result in additional severe impacts, some of which will be irreversible. Risks for society will increase, **including to infrastructure** and low-lying coastal settlements.

The Summary for Policymakers of the IPCC Working Group II report, *Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability* was approved on Sunday, February *27 2022,*by 195 member governments of the IPCC, through a virtual approval session that was held over two weeks starting on February 14.

**Urgent action required to deal with increasing risks**

Increased heatwaves, droughts and floods are already exceeding plants’ and animals’ tolerance thresholds, driving mass mortalities in species such as trees and corals. These weather extremes are occurring simultaneously, causing cascading impacts that are increasingly difficult to manage. **They have exposed millions of people to acute food and water insecurity, especially in Africa, Asia, Central and South America, on Small Islands and in the Arctic.**

To avoid mounting loss of life, biodiversity and infrastructure, **ambitious**, accelerated action is required to adapt to climate change, at the same time as making rapid, deep cuts in greenhouse gas emissions. So far, progress on adaptation is uneven and there are increasing gaps between action taken and what is needed to deal with the increasing risks, the new report finds. These gaps are largest among lower-income populations.

The Working Group II report is the second instalment of the IPCC’s Sixth Assessment Report (AR6), which will be completed this year.

“This report recognizes the interdependence of climate, biodiversity and people and integrates natural, social and economic sciences more strongly than earlier IPCC assessments,” said Hoesung Lee. “**It emphasizes the urgency of immediate and more ambitious action to address climate risks**. Half measures are no longer an option.”

### 2NC---IL---Climate

#### US action spills globally to prevent laundry list of catastrophic impacts

Lisa Friedman & Brad Plumer 7/28, Friedman is a New York Times reporter on the climate desk, previously worked for Climatewire where she led a team of 12 reporters focused on climate, before Climatewire, former Washington bureau chief for The Oakland Tribune and later The Los Angeles Daily News, Plumer is a climate reporter specializing in policy and technology efforts to cut carbon dioxide emissions, 7/28/2022, “Surprise Deal Would Be Most Ambitious Climate Action Undertaken by U.S.”, <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/07/28/climate/climate-change-deal-manchin.html> - Haoyou

WASHINGTON — The $369 billion climate and tax package forged in a surprise deal by Senate Democrats on Wednesday would be the most ambitious action ever taken by the United States to try to stop the planet from catastrophically overheating.

The agreement, which Senate Democrats hope to pass as early as next week, shocked even some who had been involved in the sputtering negotiations over climate legislation during the past year. The announcement of a deal, after many activists had given up hope, almost instantly reset the role of the United States in the global effort to fight climate change.

And it was delivered by Senator Joe Manchin III of West Virginia, the holdout Democrat who had been reviled by environmentalists and some of his own colleagues after he said this month that he could not support a climate bill because of inflation concerns.

“By a wide margin, this legislation will be the greatest pro-climate legislation that has ever been passed by Congress,” Senator Chuck Schumer, the Democratic majority leader, said in announcing the deal with Mr. Manchin.

The bill aims to tackle global warming by using billions of dollars in tax incentives to ramp up wind, solar, geothermal, battery and other clean energy industries over the next decade. Companies would receive financial incentives to keep open nuclear plants that might have closed, or to capture emissions from industrial facilities and bury them underground before they can warm the planet. Car buyers with incomes below a certain level would receive a $7,500 tax credit to purchase a new electric vehicle and $4,000 for a used one. Americans would receive rebates to install heat pumps and make their homes more energy-efficient.

“This is the action the American people have been waiting for,” President Biden said, hailing the bill’s “investments in our energy security for the future.”

Senate Democrats estimated that the legislation would enable the United States to cut greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below 2005 levels by 2030, putting the nation within striking distance of the aggressive climate goals laid out by Mr. Biden last year.

Mr. Biden wants to slash U.S. emissions to at least 50 percent below 2005 levels by the end of this decade, which is roughly the pace scientists say the whole world must follow to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) above preindustrial levels. That’s the threshold beyond which scientists say the likelihood of catastrophic floods, fires, storms and drought increases significantly. The planet has already warmed by about 1.1 degrees over the past century.

The bill “keeps us in the climate fight and makes it possible that executive action, state and local government policies, and private sector leadership can get us across the finish line,” said Jesse Jenkins of Princeton University, who modeled the effects of earlier versions of the legislation. “Without this bill, we’d be hopelessly far from our climate goals.”

Diplomats and climate experts said they hoped the deal would revitalize international efforts to tackle global warming, which have flagged in recent months as the war in Ukraine and surging oil prices have led many countries to focus on shoring up fossil fuel supplies. The world’s governments are far from doing what they must to meet the target of 1.5 degrees, and leaders are scheduled to meet in Egypt in November to discuss stepping up their efforts.

“We all needed good news,” said Tina Stege, the climate envoy for the Marshall Islands, which is at risk of disappearing beneath rising seas. The announcement of a climate deal “puts much-needed wind in our sails,” she said, though she cautioned that “we remain far from where we need to be.”

Jonathan Pershing, who served as Mr. Biden’s deputy climate change envoy until January, said that in recent weeks he had fielded concerns from former counterparts from Africa and China who were acutely aware of the seeming collapse of U.S. climate legislation.

“They were like, ‘OK, you guys aren’t going to do this, so why should we do it,’” Mr. Pershing recalled. “I think you now have a fundamentally different narrative.”

Senator Edward J. Markey, Democrat of Massachusetts, said the legislation would restore American credibility in international negotiations. “You can’t preach temperance from a bar stool, and you can’t ask China, India, Brazil or other countries to cut emissions if we’re not doing it ourselves in a significant way,” he said.

#### The bill is necessary for long-term renewable investment and agriculture emissions reductions

Lisa Friedman & Brad Plumer 7/28, Friedman is a New York Times reporter on the climate desk, previously worked for Climatewire where she led a team of 12 reporters focused on climate, before Climatewire, former Washington bureau chief for The Oakland Tribune and later The Los Angeles Daily News, Plumer is a climate reporter specializing in policy and technology efforts to cut carbon dioxide emissions, 7/28/2022, “Surprise Deal Would Be Most Ambitious Climate Action Undertaken by U.S.”, https://www.nytimes.com/2022/07/28/climate/climate-change-deal-manchin.html -Haoyou

Senate Republicans are unanimously opposed to the legislation.

“It is nothing short of an attack on the American family,” Senator John Barrasso, Republican of Wyoming, said in a statement. “If we want to reduce inflation, lower energy costs, and cut the deficit, the recipe is clear. Congress should cut spending and unleash American oil and natural gas production.”

The bill would affect nearly every aspect of U.S. energy production. It includes $30 billion in incentives for companies to build solar panels, wind turbines and batteries and to process critical minerals in the United States, aiming to reverse the longstanding migration of clean energy manufacturing to China and elsewhere.

Companies have said they are ready to respond quickly. QCells, a South Korean-based solar company that is already building a $171 million assembly factory in Dalton, Ga., is planning a multibillion-dollar expansion of supply chains in the United States if the bill passes, said Scott Moskowitz, QCells’ head of market strategy and public affairs.

Also included is $60 billion to address the disproportionate burden of pollution on low-income communities and communities of color; $27 billion for a “green bank” aimed at delivering financial support to clean energy projects; and $20 billion for programs to cut emissions in the agriculture sector.

The most immediate effect of the bill, energy experts said, will be to supercharge the growth of wind turbine, solar panel and electric vehicle production in the United States. Renewable energy production has slowed significantly this year, due to pandemic-related disruptions, trade disputes and uncertainty about federal policy, according to a recent report by the American Clean Power Association, which represents wind and solar energy companies and battery manufacturers.

“The entire clean energy industry just breathed an enormous sigh of relief,” said Heather Zichal, chief executive of the association. “This is an 11th-hour reprieve for climate action and clean energy jobs.”

For decades, the U.S. has provided tax credits for wind and solar power that expire after one to two years, subjecting the industry to a boom-bust cycle until the credits are renewed. Under the new legislation, the tax credits would last up to 10 years, to give companies the confidence to make long-term investment decisions.

### 2NC---IL---extra

#### Passing Bill ensures breakthrough in healthcare and climate

Brendan Smialowski 22, Political Reporter for France 24, 7/28/22, “Biden hails Democrats' breakthrough on health, climate spending bill,” <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20220728-biden-hails-democrats-breakthrough-on-health-climate-spending-bill> -Inti

"This is the action the American people have been waiting for. This addresses the problems of today -- high health care costs and overall inflation -- as well as investments in our energy security for the future," Biden said in a statement.

The bill still has some way to go before becoming law but the multi-billion dollar package finally won crucial support from conservative Democratic Senator Joe Manchin. His previous opposition had essentially killed Biden's ambitious plans, because in the 50-50 Senate, where Republicans rarely back Biden on anything, Democrats can't afford to lose a single vote.

For Biden, whose approval ratings hover below 40 percent, the truce with Manchin comes as a big political boost ahead of November midterms when his Democratic Party is forecast to lose control of Congress to the Republicans.

If passed, the bill will pour some $369 billion into clean energy and climate initiatives and $64 billion into state-funded healthcare, including a popular measure meant to lower ruinously high prescription medicine prices.

It would be paid for by raising $739 billion, with a major chunk coming from a 15 percent corporate tax rate. An extra $300 billion raised under the plan would go to paying off the federal deficit.

Biden, who has had to abandon even broader scale social and environmental spending ideas, got the good news of a reprieve for this bill on the same day he finished his five days isolating after a Covid-19 infection.

It also comes as Congress moves closer to passing another of his priorities -- a $52 billion fund to encourage domestic production of semiconductors, the electronic brains in modern equipment ranging from washing machines to military weapons.

In his statement, Biden said prescription drug prices would drop and healthcare for Americans using the subsidized Affordable Care Act policy would also become $800 a year cheaper.

Funding for clean energy will "create thousands of new jobs and help lower energy costs in the future," he said.

"We will pay for all of this by requiring big corporations to pay their fair share of taxes, with no tax increases at all for families making under $400,000 a year."

Biden thanked Manchin, an often unpredictable partner in the Senate, for his "extraordinary effort." "

If enacted, this legislation will be historic, and I urge the Senate to move on this bill as soon as possible, and for the House to follow as well."

#### Inflation Reduction Act Pivotal to Fixing Core Crises

Taiyler Simone **Mitchell &** Joseph **Zeballos-Roig 22**, Politics Reporter for Business Insider, 7/28/22, “Read the full text of the deal that Manchin and Schumer just struck to curb inflation, tax corporations, and fight climate change,” <https://www.businessinsider.com/read-heres-whats-in-the-manchin-deal-for-bidens-agenda-2022-7> - Inti

Sen. Joe Manchin reached a deal with Senate Majority Lead Chuck Schumer on The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

A summary of the deal says it "will make a historic down payment" to help the economy and fight climate change. Full text of the bill was dropped on Wednesday night.

Manchin, a West Virginia Democrat, helped thwart President Joe Biden's efforts to establish an expansive Build Back Better plan aimed at climate, economic, and health care progress. The deal that Manchin and Schumer struck is a skinnier version of Biden's original plan.

"For too long, the reconciliation debate in Washington has been defined by how it can help advance Democrats' political agenda called Build Back Better. Build Back Better is dead, and instead, we have the opportunity to make our country stronger by bringing Americans together," the West Virginia Democrat said in a statement.

Senior Democrats intend to pay for a deal through a 15% corporate minimum tax, IRS tax enforcement, and closing a loophole that benefits wealthy investors.

"I will do everything I can to usher in a new era of compromise and commonsense that will make America more energy secure, financially sound, and a more united country for this generation and the next," he added.

**Energy and climate**

The new deal goes against Manchin's previous comments suggesting he would not support spending on climate change.

The bill will allocate $369 billion to energy security and climate change working to lower carbon emissions by 40% by the year 2030. Part of that is achieved with new tax credits for electric vehicles meant to encourage more Americans to buy them.

Under the bill, Americans qualify for a $4,500 tax credit to buy used electric vehicles, depending on their annual income. The amount increases to $7,500 if it's a new EV.

It sets aside $60 billion for the manufacturing of domestic clean energy. There are also tax credits to slash the cost of heat pumps, water heaters, and rooftop solar energy.

The bill aims to bring down energy costs as well.

**Affordable Care Act extension**

An estimated $64 billion will be focused on the extension of the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, for an additional three years through 2025, one year longer than Democrats had suggested. Americans purchasing insurance under the program would pay no more than 8.5% of their income for coverage.

Many middle-income families would qualify for financial assistance for the first time, and lower-income households would pay little or nothing for insurance. The extension doesn't impose additional restrictions on who is eligible, otherwise known as a means-test.

The program was first established under the Biden stimulus law last year and it's set to expire at the end of 2022. Democrats are racing to prevent the program from ending since voters would receive notices of their spiking premiums only weeks before the November midterms.

**Prescription drug reform**

The deal also allows Medicare to negotiate the price of 10 prescription drugs starting in 2026, a top Democratic goal. That amount increases over the years.

It also caps out-of-pocket costs for seniors relying on Medicare Part D at $2,000 annually. The bill also penalizes drugmakers if they increase prices faster than inflation rates. Then, Medicare beneficiaries would qualify for free vaccines.

However, it omits another major priority for Democrats: Capping the cost of insulin to $35 per month. That forms part of a bill by Democratic Sen. Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire and GOP Sen. Susan Collins of Maine.

#### The bill still solves – compromise just keeps Manchin on board and reduces inflation

Lisa Friedman & Brad Plumer 7/28, Friedman is a New York Times reporter on the climate desk, previously worked for Climatewire where she led a team of 12 reporters focused on climate, before Climatewire, former Washington bureau chief for The Oakland Tribune and later The Los Angeles Daily News, Plumer is a climate reporter specializing in policy and technology efforts to cut carbon dioxide emissions, 7/28/2022, “Surprise Deal Would Be Most Ambitious Climate Action Undertaken by U.S.”, https://www.nytimes.com/2022/07/28/climate/climate-change-deal-manchin.html -Haoyou

But even with the concessions to the fossil-fuel industry, “the bill is still absolutely worth it for climate change,” said Leah Stokes, a professor of environmental policy at the University of Santa Barbara, California, who had been advising Senate Democrats.

Two weeks ago, when even Mr. Biden seemed to be writing an obituary for climate legislation, a small group of lawmakers continued to work with Mr. Manchin. Several Democrats and climate activists credited Senator John Hickenlooper of Colorado with keeping the lines of communication to Mr. Manchin open.

“When a lot of people said ‘That’s the end’ and everyone’s writing it off, I went to everybody I knew and said, ‘Wait a minute, we can’t quit,” said Mr. Hickenlooper, a onetime geologist for an oil and gas company. “We don’t have a satisfactory alternative.”

Many were wary about continuing negotiations because “they didn’t want to have their heart broken again,” Mr. Hickenlooper said. But, he said, Mr. Manchin insisted that he was still open to a deal.

Mr. Hickenlooper said the group worked closely with experts at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, and that Mr. Manchin put much stock in their data indicating that legislation could be designed that did not worsen inflation.

He called Mr. Manchin “an honest broker” in the talks, one who wanted to find a way to address climate change without creating a burden for the fossil fuel workers in his state.

“He never told me he was done, and I said as long as Joe Manchin is at the table, I’m at the table,” Mr. Hickenlooper said.

#### Package key to climate and energy- billions reserved for both areas.

Cochrane et al. 7/27 (Emily Cochrane is a correspondent focusing of debates over gov. funding and econ. legislation, Jim Tankersley is a White House correspondent with a focus on economic policy, Lisa Friedman is a reporter focusing on climate and environmental policy, “Manchin, in Reversal, Agrees to Quick Action on Climate and Tax Plan”, New York Times, <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/07/27/us/politics/manchin-climate-tax-bill.html>, AP.

The package would set aside $**369 billion for climate and energy proposals**, the most ambitious climate action ever taken by Congress, and **raise an estimated $451 billion in new tax revenue over a decad**e, **while cutting federal spending on prescription drugs by $288 billion**, [according to a summary circulated Wednesday evening](https://www.democrats.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/inflation_reduction_act_one_page_summary.pdf).

The product of a deal announced by Mr. Manchin and Senator Chuck Schumer, Democrat of New York and the majority leader, it would reduce the federal deficit by about $300 billion, while seeking to push down the cost of health care, prescription medicines and electricity.

The plan falls far short of the ambitious domestic policy and tax package President Biden proposed last year, but Democrats, looking toward midterm elections that are likely to be shaped by voters’ concerns about soaring costs, pitched it as a targeted attack on the rapid price increases that have socked American consumers in the wallet this year, with inflation running at a 40-year high.

The announcement suggested that Democrats could move in the coming days to salvage a major piece of their domestic agenda, which only weeks ago appeared doomed given Mr. Manchin’s refusal to quickly sign on. Top Democrats [released legislation](https://www.democrats.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/inflation_reduction_act_of_2022.pdf) on Wednesday evening, aiming for votes as early as next week.

“This is the action the American people have been waiting for,” Mr. Biden said in a statement, calling on both chambers to quickly pass the measure. “This addresses the problems of today — **high health care costs and overall inflation — as well as investments in our energy security for the future.”**

#### Bill key to save US society – aids medication, energy, and inflation costs.

Khattar and Roberts 7/29 (Rose Khattar is the associate director of rapid response and analysis on the Poverty to Prosperity team at American Progress her work focuses on economic gaps, Lily Roberts is the managing director of the Poverty to Prosperity team at American Progress her work focuses on raising wages; combating economic inequality the former managing director for economic policy and director of economic mobility at American Progress, “The Inflation Reduction Act Brings Down Costs and Boosts Energy Supply, Cutting Inflation and Making Historic Investments”, Center for American Progress, <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/the-inflation-reduction-act-brings-down-costs-and-boosts-energy-supply-cutting-inflation-and-making-historic-investments/>, AP.)

On Wednesday, July 27, 2022, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) [issued a joint statement](https://www.democrats.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/senate-majority-leader-chuck-schumer-d-ny-and-sen-joe-manchin-d-wv-on-wednesday-announced-that-they-have-struck-a-long-awaited-deal-on-legislation-that-aims-to-reform-the-tax-code-fight-climate-change-and-cut-health-care-costs) announcing their agreement to move forward with legislation—called the Inflation Reduction Act—that would address climate change, tax reform, prescription drug reform, and health care costs through the fiscal year 2022 budget reconciliation process. This would be a historic accomplishment in tackling the long-standing crises of climate change and health care costs, and the legislation would also address inflation—an urgent challenge.

Inflation occurs when there is a mismatch between supply and demand: Prices rise because there is too little supply to keep up with demand. Inflation is happening around the world in 2022, amid two years of supply chain disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia’s war in Ukraine. To combat this phenomenon, the Inflation Reduction Act would close loopholes exploited by corporations and the wealthy and crack down on tax cheats. These actions decrease demand, because fairer taxes help reduce excess demand. Meanwhile, the legislation increases supply through smart investments in domestic manufacturing and clean energy. **The Inflation Reduction Act would also lower the cost of energy, prescription drugs, and health care premiums—some of the biggest expenses squeezing families.**

This fact sheet details just a few of the ways the Inflation Reduction Act would lower inflation.

**The Inflation Reduction Act lessens demand**

UCLA economist Kim Clausing [has noted](https://news.bloombergtax.com/daily-tax-report/no-joe-manchin-taxes-dont-cause-inflation-kimberly-clausing) that ensuring the wealthiest corporations and individuals pay their fair share in taxes is anti-inflationary. Indeed, fairer taxes help reduce inflation by decreasing excess demand, including through less disposable income and consumption. The core tax measures in the Inflation Reduction Act include:

* [$313 billion](https://www.democrats.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/inflation_reduction_act_one_page_summary.pdf) in revenue raised from a 15 percent corporate minimum tax
* [$124 billion](https://www.democrats.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/inflation_reduction_act_one_page_summary.pdf) in revenue raised from better IRS tax enforcement
* [$14 billion](https://www.democrats.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/inflation_reduction_act_one_page_summary.pdf)in revenue raised from closing the carried interest loophole

**The Inflation Reduction Act increases supply**

The Inflation Reduction Act relieves the threat of supply chain bottlenecks by investing in domestic manufacturing and deployment of reliable clean energy that will bring down long-term costs. Expanding domestic clean energy capacity means that energy prices will be less vulnerable to global supply shocks in the future.

**The Inflation Reduction Act pushes down the cost of key consumer expenses**

Most people experience inflation through the prices they pay for their regular expenses. Keeping prices down for categories of major purchases, such as health care and energy costs, has a significant impact on household budgets. While lower prices can increase demand, the net effect is likely still lower inflation.

The Inflation Reduction Act pushes down costs in the following ways:

* The legislation empowers Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices directly, ensuring that seniors get better deals on their medications, and caps Medicare beneficiaries’ out-of-pocket costs for drugs at $2,000 per year. Millions of people would also have lower net health insurance costs because the Inflation Reduction Act extends enhanced Affordable Care Act premium tax credits for the next three years.
* The legislation provides money for home energy rebates, consumer tax credits for energy-efficient homes and vehicles, and grants to make affordable housing more energy efficient. These measures would help reduce energy costs for families by [more than 10 percent](https://rhg.com/research/us-climate-policy-2030/) on average.

**Anyone who truly cares about the cost-of-living pressures facing Americans today must work to pass the Inflation Reduction Act as soon as possible.**

**The Inflation Reduction Act decreases the deficit**

Taken together, the Inflation Reduction Act’s measures would reduce the budget deficit by more than $300 billion over the next 10 years, [reducing inflationary pressures](https://twitter.com/jasonfurman/status/1552442174775902208?s=20&t=0fbwnkmYTLQAi2aqTdSBrQ) in the process. Yet this estimate is highly conservative; [many experts](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2021/11/17/cbo-build-back-better-irs-revenue-too-low/) agree that the IRS funding would produce much more revenue than estimated, especially by deterring tax cheats. And the deficit is [already projected](https://www.cbo.gov/publication/58147#_idTextAnchor007) to come down by $1.7 trillion this year.

**The Inflation Reduction Act puts less pressure on the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates**

As the Inflation Reduction Act reduces inflation, the Biden administration is helping to decrease pressure on the Federal Reserve to aggressively increase interest rates, which should **help avoid** a potential **recession**. Rapidly increasing interest rates [risk higher unemployment](https://www.americanprogress.org/article/the-federal-reserve-must-be-careful-not-to-jeopardize-the-strong-economic-recovery/) and reduce people’s ability to buy a home. Fortunately, the Inflation Reduction Act offers additional tools, such as no new taxes on small-business owners or families making less than $400,000 a year. Only wealthy corporations currently paying less than a 15 percent corporate tax, Wall Street fund managers exploiting the carried interest tax loophole, and cheaters who aren’t paying the taxes they already owe would now have to pay their fair share.

**Conclusion**

From day one, President Joe Biden has made lowering prices for everyday Americans a central focus of his presidency. **The Inflation Reduction Act would supplement measures to strengthen the labor market and lower the cost of gas and groceries, creating a stronger economy for all. Anyone who truly cares about the cost-of-living pressures facing Americans today must work to pass the Inflation Reduction Act as soon as possible**.

#### Bill would mean a Breakthrough for Lower Energy Costs and Climate Progress

Guest Author22, 8/1/22, "The Inflation Reduction Act: A breakthrough for lower energy costs and climate progress," Climate 411, https://blogs.edf.org/climate411/2022/08/01/the-inflation-reduction-act-a-breakthrough-for-lower-energy-costs-and-climate-progress/

If passed by both the Senate and the House, this bill will be the largest investment in combating climate change ever passed by Congress — driving down carbon pollution 40% below 2005 levels by 2030. This will bring the U.S. substantially closer to President Biden’s goal of cutting climate pollution in half by 2030 and return the U.S. to a leadership role in the global fight against climate change.

These fiscally responsible investments will create good-paying clean energy and manufacturing jobs and boost U.S. energy security — all while saving families and businesses money. The bill also makes a historic down payment on environmental justice.

While the bill does contain some trade-offs, taken together, the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 will greatly benefit our economy and our climate fight – now and for generations to come. Here are the key investments you should know and why they matter.

Clean energy

The bill includes more than $135 billion in clean energy tax credits — a game-changing package of incentives that will ramp up solar, wind and energy storage on the grid. Building a clean power sector is essential for driving down climate pollution, while helping consumers reduce their energy use and hedging against volatile natural gas prices. Previous estimates on energy investments, including clean energy tax credits, have shown they could save households roughly $500 a year in energy costs when fully implemented.

Furthermore, the 10-year extension on these tax credits gives renewable energy providers across the U.S. the certainty they need to build and expand clean energy projects in the long term. As utilities and renewable energy companies said in a letter to Congress earlier in July, “Our companies are proactively shifting to clean energy and investing in energy efficiency… But corporate action alone is insufficient to meet the scope and scale of the climate crisis and deliver benefits to all.”

In addition to clean electricity tax credits, there are significant investments in emerging and expanding climate solutions, such as green hydrogen, low-emissions sustainable aviation fuels, direct air capture and carbon storage — though it will be critical to monitor these investments as they move forward and put protections in place to maximize climate benefits and protect local communities and ecosystems.

**Other notable clean energy investments include:**

$27 billion for a “green bank” that will leverage more private dollars to finance deployment of clean technology, like solar farms and electric vehicles.

$9 billion for consumer home rebate programs that will reduce energy costs, particularly for lower income households.

$2 billion in funding to expand transmission lines needed to accelerate clean energy deployment.

$18 billion in additional DOE loan authority to support economic opportunities to tribes through energy projects.

$40 billion in loan authority to help innovative energy technologies, like energy storage, battery and building efficiency technologies reach commercial deployment.

$250 billion for new refinancing and investment tools to reduce consumer electricity costs through reinvestment at existing and retired energy infrastructure sites.

Bonus tax incentives to develop clean energy resources in low-income communities and areas experiencing a transition away from fossil fuels.

More than $10 billion to support renewable buildout in rural areas through loans and assistance for electric cooperatives.

Clean transportation

The Inflation Reduction Act takes aim at the largest source of climate pollution in the U.S.: transportation. Taken together with the infrastructure package passed by Congress last year, this bill has the potential to jumpstart the adoption of electric light-duty vehicles and provide a significant down payment on medium- and heavy-duty trucks and bus electrification.

The proposed legislation features a consumer tax credit of up to $4,000 for used clean light-duty vehicles and $7,500 for new purchases – though uptake levels may depend on our success in building out domestic supply chains. In addition, there is substantial funding for zero-emission trucks and buses — some of the biggest polluters on our roads. While they account for just 5% of vehicles, they are responsible for more than a quarter of all climate pollution from the transportation sector and nearly half the deaths from air pollution linked to transportation.

Passing the Inflation Reduction Act will be an important step forward in addressing this major – and growing – source of transportation pollution, while injecting new life into the economy by supercharging America’s manufacturing capacity.

Other notable clean transportation investments include:

Up to $40,000 tax credit for commercial ZEVs.

$1 billion in grants for class 6 and 7 heavy-duty vehicles, like school and transit buses and garbage trucks — $400 million of which is focused in areas of high air pollution.

Heavy-duty charging infrastructure tax credit, which increases incentive eligibility from $30,000 per property to $100,000 per item.

$3 billion for the U.S. Postal Service to purchase zero-emission vehicles and related infrastructure.

$3 billion in grants to reduce air pollution at ports, to support the purchase and installation of zero-emission equipment and technology at ports.

$60 million to reduce diesel emissions resulting from goods movement facilities, and vehicles servicing goods movement facilities, in low-income and disadvantaged communities to address the health impacts of such emissions on such communities.

Domestic manufacturing and decarbonizing industry

Through a range of investments and incentives, the bill will create good-paying clean energy and manufacturing jobs throughout the U.S. — positioning our country to take hold of the $23 trillion global clean energy market expected by the end of the decade. This includes $60 billion in investments for clean energy technology manufacturing that will help maximize American jobs building electric vehicles, solar, wind and more, while minimizing supply chain disruptions.

The industrial and manufacturing sector itself is also responsible for a quarter of U.S. emissions — and is expected to grow — but industry faces numerous challenges in deploying clean energy solutions. The bill helps fill this gap with nearly $6 billion in grants to help energy-intensive industrial facilities reduce their emissions and significant funding to spur the market for low-emissions construction materials.

Other notable manufacturing and industrial investments include:

$500 million for the use of the Defense Production Act to accelerate domestic clean energy manufacturing for energy technologies like solar and critical electric grid components.

$2 billion for domestic manufacturing conversion grants to retool existing auto manufacturing facilities to manufacture clean vehicles.

Up to $20 billion in loans to build new clean vehicle manufacturing facilities across the country – including $3 billion for the Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing program.

$4 billion for the General Services Administration and Federal Highway Administration to acquire and install low-carbon construction materials.

$250 million to enable carbon-intensity reporting for construction materials and products through the development of environmental product declarations.

Environmental justice

The bill will invest $60 billion in environmental justice, an important step toward addressing legacies of disinvestment and pollution burden in mostly Black, Latino, Indigenous and low-income communities — and ensuring these communities benefit from a clean energy future. This includes $3 billion in block grants and additional funding to address air pollution with better health data, using innovative technology to identify pollution hotspots and blind spots. Continued leadership from environmental justice communities on how and where these investments will be deployed is imperative.

Nearly 150 million Americans, or roughly half of the population, live in areas with unhealthy levels of air pollution. The health harms fall most heavily on Black, Latino, Indigenous and low-income communities because coal-fired power plants, oil refineries, petrochemical plants, ports, highways and other sources of air pollution are more likely to be located near them. Many of the clean transportation investments mentioned above, like the grants for ports and clean heavy-duty trucks and buses, will reduce health-harming air pollution.

While the bill ushers unprecedented resources toward environmental justice, much more will be needed. In addition to an ongoing need for direct investment in overburdened areas, we must prioritize addressing environmental justice concerns as emerging technologies are developed and deployed; ensure strong community consultation processes are built into any new siting and permitting discussions; and define health thresholds that ensure no additional harms will be experienced by communities.

Other notable environmental justice investments include:

$3 billion for environmental justice block grants to reduce air pollution, mitigate climate and health risks, increase climate adaptation, and facilitate community engagement in public processes.

$3 billion in grants to reconnect communities disconnected by transportation developments through community-led projects that address neighborhood equity, safety and affordable transportation.

$1 billion grant program to make affordable housing more energy efficient.

Nearly $700 million for federal agencies and departments to conduct environmental reviews and community engagement on energy and infrastructure projects and other activities.

$280 million for air quality monitoring, including in disadvantaged communities burdened by high air pollution levels, including $117 million for communities near industrial sources of pollution.

$1.5 billion in competitive grants for tree planting and other activities to reduce urban heat challenges in underserved areas.

Curbing methane pollution

The Inflation Reduction Act will create a program to tackle methane pollution — a short-lived, but highly potent greenhouse gas which is more than 80 times as potent than carbon dioxide for the first 20 years after it is emitted. Administered by EPA, the Methane Emission Reduction Program (MERP) will complement critical EPA regulations to drive down harmful methane emissions from oil and gas operations – the largest industrial emitter of methane pollution — which waste energy resources, harm our health and drive dangerous climate change.

More details on the Methane Emission Reduction Program:

MERP will assess a charge on wasteful methane emissions above threshold levels that are based on the oil and gas industry’s own targets, starting in 2024 at $900/ton of methane. (The fee would only be assessed on the largest oil and gas polluters that already report their emissions).

The program also allocates funding for EPA to provide support to operators as well as disadvantaged communities impacted by pollution from oil and gas operations and funding for EPA to monitor methane emissions and improve methane emission estimates.

Climate-smart agriculture and climate resilience

The bill contains vital investments that will build climate resilience and put rural communities at the forefront of climate solutions, including nearly $21 billion funding for climate-friendly agriculture. This funding will help U.S. farmers and rural communities cut emissions and prepare for climate impacts that cannot be avoided. Farmers and rural communities are on the frontlines of climate change, with higher temperatures and changing rainfall making it harder to grow food; and at the same time, crop and livestock production account for more than 10% of U.S. emissions. These programs also create jobs and help revitalize rural economies.

In addition, the bill will fund coastal resilience solutions – including $2.6 billion to NOAA – that can make coastal communities, ecosystems and infrastructure better protected in the face of growing climate threats

Other notable resilience investments include:

$5 billion in funding for forests, including significant funding for natural climate solutions like reforestation and building resilience to catastrophic wildfires.

$50 million to NOAA for climate research to better understand how climate change is disrupting weather, ocean, coastal and atmospheric processes, and how climate change is impacting marine species and coastal habitats.

$150 million to NOAA to accelerate advances in weather, ocean, coastal and climate research, observation systems, modeling and forecasting.

It’s important to note that this deal is not perfect. It does have trade-offs, including reinstating offshore oil and gas lease sales that could increase emissions and cause air and water pollution, but on the whole, the Inflation Reduction Act is a huge win for the economy and climate.

This deal – if passed – will deliver lower energy costs, healthier communities and historic progress in the fight against climate change. As President Biden put it, this is “the action the American people have been waiting for.” Congress, let’s get it done.

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### 2AC – Core

#### 1] Bill needs Sinema in order to pass.

Alan Fram 22, 7-30-2022, "Democrat's economic package poised for passage but still faces obstacles," PBS NewsHour, https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/democrats-economic-package-poised-for-passage-but-still-faces-obstacles / mml - Michael

Every Republican seems poised to vote “no.” Democrats will need all 50 of their own votes in the Senate, where unpredictable Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., has yet to state her view. Democrats can lose no more than four House votes to succeed there. Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said Friday that when the Senate approves the package, “We’ll pass it.” READ MORE: Your guide to Congress’s new inflation-fighting package Schumer wants Senate passage next week. He acknowledged that timeline is “going to be hard” because it will take time for the chamber’s parliamentarian to make sure the bill conforms to Senate rules. This will also take luck. All 50 Democrats, including both independents who support them, will have to be healthy enough to show up and vote. That’s not guaranteed. The latest, extremely contagious COVID-19 variant is spreading around the country. And the chamber has 33 senators who are 70 years old or more, including 19 Democrats. Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., 77, was the latest senator to announce he’d contracted the disease. Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., 82, has been out after hip surgery. Both are expected back next week

#### 2] But bill WON’T pass – Sinema is obstructive to Biden’s agenda because of donors

Charolette **Klein 22 ,** 3/16/22, Staff Writer @ Vanity Fair, “Senator Kyrsten Sinema is reportedly as confusing to Biden as TikTok” <https://www.vanityfair.com/news/2022/03/senator-kyrsten-sinema-is-reportedly-as-confusing-to-biden-as-tiktok> - Khamari

New details have emerged about Sen. Kyrsten Sinema's [strained relationship](https://www.vanityfair.com/news/2021/09/kyrsten-sinema-holding-bidens-agenda) with President Joe Biden, including the time she reportedly fought with White House aides about the need to mask up in the presence of the then-septuagenarian president last spring. According to This Will Not Pass, a forthcoming book about the Biden-Harris administration written by New York Times reporters Jonathan Martin and Alexander Burns, the Democratic senator from Arizona repeatedly asked why, if she’d already been vaccinated, it was necessary to wear a mask—and in doing so earned the title of the “first-ever lawmaker to argue with” Biden’s staff over the requested precaution.

The mask argument is among various insights into Biden and Sinema’s dealings, as [reported](https://www.axios.com/jonathan-martin-alex-burns-book-biden-sinema-94352832-b1e8-465f-ada0-521729691c73.html) by Axios’s inside look Wednesday. Sinema, a [centrist](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/09/29/us/kyrsten-sinema-voters.html) who [has](https://www.vanityfair.com/news/2022/01/what-are-democrats-going-to-do-now-voting-rights-biden-manchin-sinema) [held up](https://www.wsj.com/articles/manchin-pushes-democrats-to-revisit-tax-rate-increases-11644834602?AID=11557093&PID=6415797&SID=bi%7C620a7a6d3423520e820c0909%7C1647457314586illfsr7t&subid=Business+Insider&cjevent=9b8eb1c8a55b11ec80c300180a82b832&tier_1=affiliate&tier_2=moa&tier_3=Business+Insider&tier_4=3861930&tier_5=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.wsj.com%2Farticles%2Fmanchin-pushes-democrats-to-revisit-tax-rate-increases-11644834602) [major pieces](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/democrats-brace-for-likely-defeat-of-voting-rights-push-due-to-gop-filibuster/2022/01/19/2f9a734c-792d-11ec-bf97-6eac6f77fba2_story.html) of [Biden’s agenda](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/09/29/business/economy/biden-agenda-sinema-manchin.html)—including proposals to raise taxes on corporations and wealthy individuals (both of which she opposes)—has seemingly found herself more at ease in Republican circles than liberal ones (she's often found chatting with Republican senators in the Senate chamber, too). The Democrat, who mostly [refuses to talk to the press](https://www.businessinsider.com/kyrsten-sinema-doesnt-know-enigma-means-interview-video-2021-11), reportedly marketed herself as “anti-government” and “anti-tax” at a private Washington fundraiser. It was at this GOP-heavy lobbyist event, reported for the first time in the book, where Sinema also mocked Biden, praised House GOP leader Kevin McCarthy, and defended Rep. Andy Biggs, the conspiracy-inclined House Republican who denied the election results and [blamed](https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/politics/arizona/2021/06/23/rep-andy-biggs-echoes-conspiracy-theory-blaming-fbi-jan-6-riot/5330026001/) the FBI for the January 6 attack on the Capitol. "I know some people think he’s crazy, but that's just because they don’t know him,” Sinema said of her fellow Arizonan. “I love Andy Biggs.”

Sinema's fundraising habits—and the ire it caused Democrats—is not new. At the height of Build Back Better negotiations last fall, as lawmakers were scrambling to find a path forward for Biden's social spending and tax priorities as well as the bipartisan infrastructure bill, Sinema left town to fundraise with business lobbies and [corporate groups](https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2021/10/sinema-leaves-dc-for-high-end-corporate-fundraiser-as-she-blocks-biden-spending-bill/) that notably were [working against Biden's agenda.](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/09/27/us/politics/sinema-fund-raiser-social-climate-bill.html)

The details reported Wednesday are likely only to add to Biden’s [vexation](https://www.cnn.com/2021/10/07/politics/bernie-sanders-joe-manchin-biden-agenda/index.html) with Sinema, which, according to the Gray Lady duo, is something he’s acknowledged in private. “One person close to the president likened Biden's perplexity at Sinema to his difficulty grasping his grandchildren's use of ... TikTok,” they write in the book. “He wanted to relate, but he just didn’t quite get it.”

#### 3] Biden has FAILED to keep democrats in line and to get agendas through --- No PC for him

Adam **Tooze 22**, Award winning journalist, historian, Director of the European Institute, Current Professor @ Columbia University, Graduate from the London School of Economics and Political Science, 7/20/22, “Why Joe Biden failed” <https://www.newstatesman.com/world/americas/north-america/2022/07/adam-tooze-why-joe-biden-failed>  
In the summer of 2022 a trip to Washington DC can seem like a visit to the scene of a disaster foretold. Having removed [Donald Trump](https://www.newstatesman.com/tag/donald-trump) from office, and with majorities in both chambers of Congress, the Democrats began 2021 with high ambition and the eyes of the world upon them. A year and a half later, they are facing political ruin. A combination of bad luck, ineptitude, internal divisions, the structures of US politics and the ruthlessness of their enemies has put not only the future of the [Biden](https://www.newstatesman.com/tag/joe-biden) administration but the republic itself in danger.

The fraying of the existing order is visible at all levels. Internationally, Joe Biden has rallied Nato and its allies against Vladimir Putin’s[war on Ukraine](https://www.newstatesman.com/world/europe/ukraine). But the damage done by decades of misguided US geopolitics cannot be undone and, despite Russia’s flagrant aggression, the kind of global coalition Washington mobilised against Saddam Hussein has proved elusive. Meanwhile, the economic fallout from the war in Ukraine will push weakened institutions of governance to the point of collapse. And as Washington seeks to cajole “democracies against autocracies” abroad, the pillars of the US’s own liberal regime are under attack. The overturning of [Roe vs Wade](https://www.newstatesman.com/tag/roe-vs-wade) enables the reactionary denial of reproductive rights across red-state America. The Supreme Court is also set on demolishing the legal bases for key environmental regulations.

In 2020 the US was on the brink of constitutional crisis. Though Biden’s election victory, and the [Republican Party’s](https://www.newstatesman.com/tag/republicans-2) belated decision to recognise it, upheld American democracy, basic questions about the country’s future remain open. How can the US function when one party is not only devoted to overturning key compromises and institutions that have sustained society and government for more than half a century, but is willing to do so by any means necessary, whether or not it has majority support? That so many conservatives, and members of the GOP leadership, believe Biden stole the election is a sign of the wretched state of affairs. Trump, the chief author of that corrosive fantasy, lurks in the shadows and, if he can avoid legal disqualification, whether for his involvement in the Capitol riots on 6 January or other malfeasance, he will likely run again in 2024.

Given this alarming constellation of threats, one might expect liberal opinion to rally around Biden. The stakes could not be higher. His administration can claim some achievements. It has overseen a remarkable recovery from the [Covid pandemic](https://www.newstatesman.com/tag/covid-19). It passed a $1trn infrastructure package, which will improve the country’s degraded transport and communications networks. Unemployment is at record lows in a number of states.

But rather than showing a centrist advance, Biden’s polling numbers are plummeting. Even Democrats are unenthusiastic about the prospect of Biden (seen as old and weak) or Kamala Harris (floundering as vice-president) running in 2024. Those impressions will only harden when the Democrats lose their majorities in Congress, as they are expected to in November. That will allow Republicans to block legislation and to use debt-ceiling negotiations to shut down the government, as they did in [Barack Obama’s](https://www.newstatesman.com/tag/barack-obama) second term.

If Biden’s plan was to stabilise US democracy with progressive politics – an updated New Deal for the 21st century – the conclusion now is that his presidency has failed.

comparisons with FDR. The $1.9trn American Rescue Plan that passed in March last year was larger than any stimulus measure attempted in the world. Combined with the Federal Reserve’s expansive monetary policy and a dramatic rebound in the private sector, the US experienced a historic recovery.

But Biden’s agenda was even bolder. In the spring of 2021 he introduced a succession of plans – on infrastructure, climate and welfare – aimed at ensuring a greener future. It was the Democrats’ version of Trump’s promise to “Make America Great Again” and it embodied a theory of political change. As with the New Deal in the 1930s, Biden’s triple push on jobs, climate and welfare would build constituencies that entrenched long-term support for the Democratic Party.

But only fragments of that agenda have been realised. What should have been a bold programme of social and political transformation became an embarrassing case study in legislative failure.

The perils of indiscipline

Despite Trump’s shambolic administration, voters did not decisively repudiate either him or his party in the elections of November 2020. Biden won the popular vote, but his victory in the electoral college depended on the results in three key states: Arizona, Georgia and Wisconsin. In the congressional elections, the Democrats did poorly. Their majority in the House fell from 35 to nine seats. It was only the mobilisation of voters in Georgia that delivered a wafer-thin majority in the Senate.

The delicate balance in Congress made it imperative for the Democrats to maintain party discipline, but this represents a major challenge. Both the GOP and the Democrats consist of coalitions of several distinct caucuses. These caucuses reflect an electorate as fragmented as that of any other modern society – no different from Germany, with its six-party system, or the shifting coalitions of French or Italian politics.

As in the UK, the US’s first-past-the-post majoritarian system fails to represent this complexity. It forces the two big parties to contain divergent sectional, ideological and regional interests. Without formal coalition agreements between these groups, legislation becomes a daily fight for votes.

The left wing of the [Democratic Party](https://www.newstatesman.com/tag/the-democratic-party) carried energy and ideas into the administration. Embracing Biden’s high-spending agenda, the president’s new progressive allies celebrated a decisive break with the neoliberal corset of the Obama and Clinton presidencies. But to enact legislation required that Biden secure the votes not just of the left and the centrists but also the Democratic right wing, personified by the West Virginian senator Joe Manchin and Arizona’s ideologically idiosyncratic Kyrsten Sinema. Given the precarious Democratic majority in Congress, every vote counted.

This problem of forging majorities was evident from the start. Yet no deal was made to unify the Democratic Party around a viable compromise agenda. The impasse between the White House and Democratic holdouts in the Senate is surprising since Biden was touted as a congressional deal-maker. But, apart from a downsized infrastructure package, no major spending policies have passed since the Rescue Plan. Manchin’s position is unassailable, and he knows it. His West Virginia seat belongs by right to the Republicans. He has nothing to gain by supporting Biden’s programme. On 14 July Manchin made it clear that no climate legislation will pass with his vote.

#### 4] No link – NATO support BIPARTISAN

Patricia **Zengerle 22**, Correspondent at Reuters, Experienced journalist with strongest focus on foreign affairs, politics, editing and management, Reuters, 5/23/22, “US Republicans join NATO in NATO backing despite rising nationalism” <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-republicans-join-democrats-backing-nato-expansion-despite-rising-nationalism-2022-05-23/>

Democratic and Republican U.S. Senate leaders introduced a resolution on Monday backing Sweden and Finland's bids to join NATO, underscoring support for expanding the alliance despite growing nationalism in the Republican party.

It will take a two-thirds majority in the 100-member Senate to approve the expansion of the alliance, requiring "yes" votes from at least 17 Republicans along with every Democrat.

Many U.S. Republicans have been following the lead of former President Donald Trump - the party's leader - toward more nationalist foreign policy. Trump accused NATO allies of not spending enough on their own defense and excessively burdening the United States.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has prompted Finland and Sweden to apply to join NATO.

In the Senate, 11 Republicans voted "no" last week against legislation providing $40 billion to help Ukraine, with some saying they wanted the funds director to Americans. [read more](https://www.reuters.com/world/us/after-delay-congress-sends-40-billion-ukraine-aid-package-biden-2022-05-19/)

Last month, 63 Republican members of the House of Representatives, nearly one-third of the full caucus, opposed a bill reaffirming U.S. support for NATO.

The top Senate Republican, Mitch McConnell, and Jim Risch, the top Republican on the foreign relations panel, joined Democratic Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and committee chairman Bob Menendez and other senators in introducing the resolution.

"We fully support their application to become NATO members and are looking forward to their swift ascension in the coming months," Menendez said in a statement.

McConnell referred to Finland and Sweden as "strong countries with formidable military capabilities" and said in his statement, "both nations' robust defense funding means their accession would meaningfully bolster our pursuit of greater burden-sharing across the alliance. I fully support the Senate providing its advice and consent as quickly as possible.

#### 5] Huge Turn—the bill only worsens climate change and that alone turns the DA

Brett **Hartl 22**, Government Affairs Director for CFBD Brett has a degree from Prescott College in conservation biology and a law degree from Lewis and Clark Law School, he’s also spent 5years studying endangered species in Hawaii. Center for Biological Diversity 7/28/22, “Manchin Poison Pills Buried in Inflation Reduction Act Will Destroy Livable Climate ” <https://biologicaldiversity.org/w/news/press-releases/manchin-poison-pills-buried-in-inflation-reduction-act-will-destroy-a-livable-climate-2022-07-28/> - Khamari

 A proposed climate and energy package would require massive oil and gas leasing in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska, reinstate an illegal 2021 Gulf lease sale and mandate that millions more acres of public lands be offered for leasing before any new solar or wind energy projects could be built on public lands or waters.

The provisions, in sections 50264 and 50265, are buried near the end of the [725-page Inflation Reduction Act](https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3-wagtail.biolgicaldiversity.org/documents/inflation_reduction_act_of_2022.pdf). The bill was released Wednesday after Sen. Joe Manchin and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer announced they had agreed to the $370 billion package.

“This is a climate suicide pact,” said Brett Hartl, government affairs director at the Center for Biological Diversity. “It’s self-defeating to handcuff renewable energy development to massive new oil and gas extraction. The new leasing required in this bill will fan the flames of the climate disasters torching our country, and it’s a slap in the face to the communities fighting to protect themselves from filthy fossil fuels.”

The bill would require the Interior Department to offer at least 2 million acres of public lands and 60 million acres of offshore waters for oil and gas leasing each year for a decade as a prerequisite to installing any new solar or wind energy. If the department failed to offer these minimum amounts for leasing, no right of ways could be granted for any utility-scale renewable energy project on public lands or waters.

In January a federal judge [overturned](https://biologicaldiversity.org/w/news/press-releases/court-massive-offshore-oil-lease-sale-in-gulf-based-on-faulty-legal-analysis-2022-01-27/) the 80 million-acre Gulf of Mexico lease sale because Interior failed to address the climate harms from developing the leases. The additional Gulf of Mexico and Alaska lease sales mandated by the bill for 2022 and 2023 were part of a prior five-year leasing plan, but they did not occur.

The Inflation Reduction Act would require offering these minimum lease amounts for 10 years. That translates to more than 600 million acres of offshore leasing — four times the size of the entire Gulf of Mexico outer continental shelf.

On average the fossil fuel industry has purchased for lease 1 million acres of land every year since 2009. By requiring 2 million acres per year to be offered for lease — an area the size of Yellowstone National Park — the legislation all but ensures that the fossil fuel industry will maintain current oil and gas production levels without any change for the next decade. U.S. emissions must be cut in half over the next nine years to have even a chance of avoiding catastrophic warming.

“More oil and gas leasing is completely incompatible with maintaining a livable planet, so we’re forced to fight this,” said Hartl. “This deal is unacceptable. If it passes, we’ll fight every single lease the Interior Department tries to approve. Our climate and the health of our communities depend on it.”

Passing new laws to mandate oil and gas leasing would fundamentally conflict with the Biden administration’s climate goals. Multiple [analyses](https://fossilfueltreaty.org/exit-strategy) show climate pollution from the world’s already producing fossil fuel developments, if fully developed, will push warming past 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Avoiding such warming requires [ending](https://www.iea.org/reports/net-zero-by-2050) new investment in fossil fuel projects and [phasing out](https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/en/publications/phaseout-pathways-for-fossil-fuel-production-within-pariscompliant-carbon-budgets(c7235a8e-e3b1-4f44-99de-c27958c03758).html) production to keep as much as [40%](https://priceofoil.org/2022/05/17/study-existing-oil-gas-and-coal-extraction-sites-need-to-be-closed-down-to-stay-within-1-5c-findings-show/) of already-developed fields in the ground.

Fossil fuel production on public lands is [responsible for](https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/sir20185131) about a quarter of U.S. greenhouse gas pollution. Peer-reviewed science [estimates](https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs10584-018-2152-z) that a nationwide federal fossil fuel leasing ban would reduce carbon emissions by 280 million tons per year, ranking it among the most ambitious federal climate-policy proposals in recent years.

### 1AR – UQ – Laundry List

#### Injuries, sickness, and chamber rules all decrease the chances of passage.

Alan Fram 22, 7-30-2022, "Democrat's economic package poised for passage but still faces obstacles," PBS NewsHour, https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/democrats-economic-package-poised-for-passage-but-still-faces-obstacles / mml - Michael

Every Republican seems poised to vote “no.” Democrats will need all 50 of their own votes in the Senate, where unpredictable Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., has yet to state her view. Democrats can lose no more than four House votes to succeed there. Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said Friday that when the Senate approves the package, “We’ll pass it.” READ MORE: Your guide to Congress’s new inflation-fighting package Schumer wants Senate passage next week. He acknowledged that timeline is “going to be hard” because it will take time for the chamber’s parliamentarian to make sure the bill conforms to Senate rules. This will also take luck. All 50 Democrats, including both independents who support them, will have to be healthy enough to show up and vote. That’s not guaranteed. The latest, extremely contagious COVID-19 variant is spreading around the country. And the chamber has 33 senators who are 70 years old or more, including 19 Democrats. Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., 77, was the latest senator to announce he’d contracted the disease. Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., 82, has been out after hip surgery. Both are expected back next week.

### 1AR – UQ – Sinema

**All we have to win is that Sinema blocks the bill which kills the DA**

#### Sinema is a pharma hack, she won’t vote for it

Morgan Keith 21, 10-24-2021, "Kyrsten Sinema takes thousands in campaign contributions from pharmaceutical giants while stalling prescription drug pricing reforms," Business Insider, https://www.businessinsider.com/kyrsten-sinema-pharmaceutical-giants-campaign-donations-drug-price-reform-2021-9 / mml - Michael

Sen. Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona is said to be opposed to the current prescription drug pricing proposals in bills put forth by both the House and Senate, as well as an alternative from House centrists that would limit the drugs subject to Medicare negotiation, according to unnamed sources cited by Politico. Sinema's stance has stalled the passage of the $3.5 trillion spending bill crafted by the Biden administration and fellow Democrats, even though it could jeopardize her own bipartisan infrastructure bill. Democratic Rep. Pramila Jayapal of Washington has previously said the majority of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, which she chairs, would not vote for Sinema's infrastructure bill without first passing the spending package. If passed, the $3.5 trillion spending bill would lower the cost of certain prescription drugs by instituting reforms and allowing Medicare to negotiate prices, which would save the federal government "hundreds of billions" on health care spending, according to a memo for Democratic senators. Since launching her political career, Sinema's campaign committee has received more than $500,000 in donations from the pharmaceutical and health product industries, according to OpenSecrets. Kaiser Health News dubbed Sinema a "pharma favorite in Congress" after her campaign received $98,500 from PACs run by employees of drug companies and their trade groups during the 2019-20 election cycle. One of her largest financial backers has been Amgen, a biotechnology company that manufactures prescription drugs for individuals with illnesses that have limited treatment options, such as cancer patients and chronically ill individuals. Insider reached out to Sinema and her team but has not received a response. Many prescription drugs made by Amgen have hefty price tags. Overall, the company made $24.24 billion in global product sales in 2020. Amgen did not respond to inquiries about whether it lobbied Sinema on prescription drug pricing reforms or how the bill's passage would impact the company's bottom line. In 2021, Amgen has spent $4.72 million on lobbying Congressional representatives over 17 bills, the majority of which address issues related to prescription drug pricing, according to OpenSecrets. According to Google's Transparency Report, a September 9 political ad for Sinema was paid for by Center Forward, a super PAC dedicated to supporting the election of centrist Democrats, according to The Washington Post. In its registration with the Washington, DC, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, Center Forward lists Libby Greer and Cindy Brown from the lobbying firm Forbes Tate Partners as governors on its board. Greer and Brown are lobbyists for several pharmaceutical companies, including Bayer, Gilead Sciences, Eli Lilly, Novartis, Amgen, and Merck & Co, according to documents obtained by the Daily Poster and reviewed by Insider. Greer and Brown did not respond to inquiries about the scope of their involvement in the Sinema political ads. Center Forward Executive Director Cori Kramer Smith said that day-to-day activities, programming, and messaging do not fall under the board's responsibilities. Merck was the second-highest pharmaceutical industry contributor to Sinema's campaign, donating $20,500 to her campaign committee and leadership PAC between 2015 and 2020, according to Kaiser Health News' "Pharma Cash to Congress" tracker. Eli Joseph, the husband of Sinema's chief of staff, Meg Joseph, worked as the executive director of federal policy and government relations for Merck & Co. from 2012-2015, according to his LinkedIn. Meg Joseph's LinkedIn also shows that she worked as a lobbyist from 2007-2008 at Clark & Weinstock, which lobbied on behalf of several pharmaceutical companies and major industry trade groups during her tenure, Salon reported. Neither of the Josephs responded to inquiries about their previous work as lobbyists or connections to the pharmaceutical industry. Merck spokesperson John Cummins said Eli Joseph handled Senate affairs and was not involved in decisions surrounding House contributions. In addition to Sinema, four House Democrats are also opposed to direct government negotiation of drug prices. Reps. Scott Peters, Kurt Schrader, Stephanie Murphy, and Kathleen Rice voted against advancing a drug-pricing provision on September 15, although it would be approved later in the day by the Ways and Means Committee, the Los Angeles Times reported.

#### Republicans will USE Sinema to block the bill

[Marianne LEVINE](https://www.politico.com/staff/marianne-levine), [Anthony ADRAGNA](https://www.politico.com/staff/anthony-adragna) and Burgess EVERETT 7/18/22, Politico, Marianne is a Senate Reporter for Politico and co-authored Politico Influence, Burgess is the congressional Bureau Chief for Politico specializing in the senate since 2013 , Anthony Adragna is an energy specialist specializing in EPA and other relations to the government and environment, “Silent Sinema stresses Dems as they race to pass Manchin-blessed deal” <https://www.politico.com/news/2022/07/28/democrats-climate-tax-health-care-bill-recess-00048459> - Khamari

Still, one person who spoke to Sinema described her as “frustrated” at not being looped in, while another person who talked to her said she was “totally shocked.” And Republicans think she’s their only chance at stopping the deal.

“She was not consulted,” said Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas), who worked with Sinema last month to pass a bipartisan gun safety bill and lambasted Manchin repeatedly over the past 24 hours. By contrast, he added, “I know I can trust her when she tells me something. I’m beginning to think I can’t trust other people around here when they tell me something, because they so routinely lie about it.”

Democrats convened for a private caucus meeting Thursday morning to discuss the stunning Wednesday deal. During the meeting, Schumer touted the agreement and urged his caucus to pull out all the stops in order to get the bill passed before leaving D.C. for Congress’ usual summer recess.

Sinema did not attend the meeting. And Schumer repeatedly declined to comment on her potential vote. “You saw what she said. So I say, no comment. I’m not going to talk about Sinema, period.”

Manchin, meanwhile, told reporters he had not spoken to her but said he hoped “she would be receptive.” He added that he’s “adamant” on closing the carried interest loophole.

During talks last year on Democrats’ party-line vision, Sinema reached a deal with the White House on a menu of revenue options to finance it. In March, [she said that a potential deal](https://www.politico.com/news/2022/03/02/joe-manchin-democrat-bill-taxes-00013246) with Manchin “already has enough tax reform options to pay for it.”

“There’s a few rocks in the river in front of us because every senator, myself included, has something that I wanted in this package that’s not in it,” observed Sen. Chris Coons (D-Del.). “Getting through the process from here to completion is going to be an interesting run. But I’m optimistic we will get there.”

And some don’t think Sinema has any other option but to support the deal in the end. Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-Ariz.) said “her state is going to need her on this” and she “politically doesn’t have a choice.”

In addition to the whip count, passing the package by next week without a single GOP vote won’t be easy. Democrats are already diving into a behind-the-scenes scrub to ensure the bill complies with the special budget rules that allow them to evade a filibuster. But that slog could eat up pivotal time over the next week — and result in the nonpartisan Senate rules referee knocking out portions of the proposal.

And all that could play out in real time, with Democrats forced to litigate parts of their marquee party-line bill against Republican challenges as it’s being considered on the floor. There’s also the unlimited so-called vote-a-rama spree, where any senator, including Sinema, can seek to change the bill by offering amendments.

In a sign that Republicans will put up a tough fight against the package, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell said Democrats have produced “an absolute monstrosity, and we’re going to be really aggressively in opposition

### 1AR – Link Defense

#### Congress and the public love NATO

Dr. Mira Rapp-Hooper 19, Senior Fellow in the Asia-Pacific Security Program and the Center for a New American Security, Former Fellow with the CSIS Asia Program and Director of the CSIS Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative, M.A., M.Phil., and Ph.D. in Political Science from Columbia University, and Matthew C. Waxman, Liviu Librescu Professor of Law at Columbia Law School, “Presidential Alliance Powers”, The Washington Quarterly, Volume 42, Issue 2, p. 79-80

Furthermore, bipartisan congressional support for alliances combined with strong backing inside the U.S. military and from career officials of the U.S. foreign policy agencies may create unusual opportunities for pressure to sustain alliances. Whereas throughout most of the postwar period, the executive branch had the advantage of relative unity compared to Congress, on alliances the inverse is now true: President Trump and some of his political appointees find themselves at odds with executive branch bureaucracies over alliances, while Congress has been relatively unified on some measures to hem in the administration. These congressional initiatives may not only impede presidential moves directly, but they may strengthen the hand of proponents for alliance commitments within the administration.

A reasonable observer might nevertheless question whether a deeply divided Congress in a highly polarized environment has incentives to take executive-thwarting action. Fortunately, Americans strongly support the country’s alliances, suggesting that efforts by Congress to take affirmative, stabilizing action are likely to be met with political support, even if voters do not prioritize this issue and members of Congress see it as ranking lower than other legislative efforts. The country has generally been supportive of alliances, and remarkably that enthusiasm has only strengthened since the current president took office, suggesting that it may be a countervailing reaction to his alliance detractions. While domestic support for alliances has generally been bipartisan, however, a partisan divide has emerged since 2016, with self-identified liberals supporting NATO much more enthusiastically than their rightleaning counterparts. Support among Republicans nonetheless remains respectable, though, with the hard core of the president’s base being most opposed to alliances. This suggests that many members of Congress from both political parties could find constituency support for alliance-protective measures.47

Additionally, multiple surveys find that Americans would prefer to see alliances take on a more prominent role in U.S. foreign policy. Americans generally feel that NATO is underperforming its potential, and yet the public would like to see Washington maintain or even increase its commitment to the Atlantic Alliance.48 Public support for using U.S. troops to defend key allies in both Europe and Asia is also actually on the rise, while support for unilateral U.S. military action has been on the wane for some time.49 This evidence suggests that alliances may serve a useful political role for a war-weary country that nonetheless hopes to hold on to global leadership. For Congress, opposing presidential unilateralism in favor of maintaining or increasing American alliance commitments is likely to reflect public sentiment, and therefore make good political sense.

#### The plan has bipartisan support---especially from key senators like Manchin

Tom Donilon 21, Former National Security Advisor in the Obama Administration, Interviewed by Jonathan Tepperman, “What Georgia’s Senate Results Mean for Biden’s Foreign Policy”, Foreign Policy, 1/6/2021, https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/01/06/donilon-democrats-georgia-senate-control-biden-foreign-policy/

On Jan. 5, voting concluded in a runoff election for the U.S. state of Georgia’s two Senate seats. These ballots will decide not just who represents Georgia in Congress’s upper house but which party controls the Senate as a whole: If both Democratic candidates win, as seems increasingly likely, their party will hold 50 seats—enough, with Vice President-elect Kamala Harris’s tie-breaking vote, to run things there. But only barely; given the razor-thin margin, both progressives and a few center-right senators (Joe Manchin, Suzanne Collins, and Mitt Romney) could hold the institution hostage and complicate President-elect Joe Biden’s plans. On Tuesday evening, with the Georgia results still uncertain, Foreign Policy’s editor-at-large Jonathan Tepperman spoke to Tom Donilon, who served as former President Barack Obama’s national security advisor from 2010 to 2013—another period when Democrats lacked congressional control—about how the incoming president can navigate the challenge and find ways to push through his agenda without legislative support. The following conversation has been edited for clarity and length.

Jonathan Tepperman: If Democrats don’t win both Georgia Senate seats and Republicans maintain control of the Senate—or even if Democrats do win, but we end up with a 50-50 split—what kind of obstacles will it create for President-elect Joe Biden when it comes to foreign policy?

Tom Donilon: Senate control can make a big difference in foreign policy when it comes to the ability to get key personnel confirmed in a timely way. In general, though, congressional control matters somewhat less on foreign and national security issues than it does on domestic issues. Under the Constitution, the president has broader powers and the ability to act with dispatch in the areas of foreign policy and national security. Just look at the Trump administration. President Donald Trump acted unilaterally—without congressional support—in a long list of areas: on North Korea, and the JCPOA, and suspending participation in the World Health Organization, and pulling out of Trans-Pacific Partnership.

JT: But you also need the Senate’s agreement if you want to pass any new treaties.

TD: I think that the intense polarization of the country and Congress has already led to fewer and fewer international agreements being sought as treaties by the executive branch, and they’re making agreements by executive order instead.

JT: Are there any disadvantages to that approach?

TD: It can work pretty well in terms of achieving goals. The downside, however, is that if you have a dramatic change in outlook from one administration to the next—if you’re succeeded by an administration like Trump’s, which placed very little value on continuity—then the executive agreement can be unilaterally withdrawn by the next president.

JT: And that does damage to how reliable and dependable other countries think the United States is.

TD: It does, it does. It can lead the world to have less confidence in the United States and its state actions. That has been the case during the Trump administration.

JT: Do you think there are areas where Biden could win bipartisan support in the next Senate? Or do you think McConnell’s policy of “no” is so absolute that no cooperation will be possible?

TD: I think there are areas where you can reach agreement across the aisle. Number one, I think there is a real possibility of cooperation on an investment agenda for the United States to increase American competitiveness in the context of China.

JT: Are you talking about investment in domestic R&D and things like that?

TD: Yes, domestic investment. On China, I think you could get a bipartisan agreement on the need for substantial investment in an American competitiveness to meet the China challenge. Biden talked about that in his campaign. But people like Republican Senator Marco Rubio have also talked very seriously about the need for additional investment in research and development and in education and in infrastructure—the things that the United States needs to invest at home in order to compete with China.

I think another example would be Europe and NATO, where Trump had a profoundly different relationship with allies than his predecessors. Biden has said it’s a priority of his to reestablish and strengthen relationships with allies, and I think you’ll have congressional support for that.

### 1AR—AT: PC

**Biden washed away his agenda a long time ago and that’s not changing now, he failed to keep democrats disciplined into a unified front and failed to pass key agendas because of Sinema and Manchin.**

**Democrats WILL lose midterm and Biden’s popularity is CRUMBLING that’s Tooze, there’s no reason why this bill won’t add to his failures.**

#### No Biden PC – He’s unpopular and top sources say he’s weak

Natasha **Korecki 22**; Carol. E Lee, Mike Memoli, Peter Nichoas and Johnathan Allen 7/29/22, CNBC, all qualified political reporters and researchers, “Biden’s soft power has not been enough to stop would-be rivals from grabbing the 2024 spotlight”, <https://www.cnbc.com/2022/07/29/bidens-soft-power-not-enough-to-stop-rivals-from-grabbing-2024-spotlight.html>  
White House officials are closely tracking the political activity of at least half a dozen Democrats seen as potential alternatives to President Joe Biden in the 2024 election.

The administration appears to be parsing the words and deeds of the rising Democrats across the nation, deploying a charm offensive in response to those who seem to be getting a bit too ambitious on their own.

The strategy — which some Democrats close to the White House say leans too heavily on soft power, and lacks a traditional enforcer — hasn’t been especially effective. Biden hasn’t been able to stop Democrats from raising their national profiles or silence doubts within the party about his inevitability.

This article is based on interviews with more than two dozen current and former White House officials, lawmakers, Democratic donors and other sources close to the Biden operation.

When Gov. J.B. Pritzker of Illinois and Gov. Gavin Newsom of California gained traction by dabbling in national politics, the White House was quick to host them at separate events.

In Washington this month, Newsom assured White House chief of staff Ron Klain in a private conversation that he is “not interested” in running for president in 2024, according to a person familiar with the conversation.

Days later, Newsom began running [political ads in Texas attacking Gov. Greg Abbott](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/california-gov-gavin-newsom-running-full-page-ads-texas-rcna39475)on abortion rights and guns.

On Capitol Hill, Biden and top White House officials have had to spend time co-opting progressive critics who have also spurred talk of 2024 ambitions, including Rep. Ro Khanna, D-Calif., with private praise.

And inside the West Wing, the Biden press team has compiled a list of quotes from would-be rivals insisting they back the president. (Pritzker, Khanna and Newsom’s remarks are all from the same article in [early July](https://www.cnn.com/2022/07/11/politics/biden-democratic-primary-challenge-2024/index.html).)

“Nobody likes seeing somebody taking out coffins for you. It’s just like — ‘Not so fast. I’ll make this decision,‘” Democratic donor John Morgan said. “It’s like they’re going to the swim meet and Biden is the defending gold medalist. But they all got their swimsuits on underneath the pants. They’re ready to get up there and jump as soon as he says ‘go.’ They can’t be walking around the arena just in a swimsuit because that would really piss Biden off.”

The keep-frenemies-close approach is a sign that the White House is more worried about his potential rivals drawing contrasts with him on policy, which they’ve done, according to Biden allies. Several White House officials insisted in interviews that the administration is not concerned with or preoccupied by the possibility of a rare intraparty challenge for an incumbent president.

But the tactic also reflects the limits of the White House’s power at a time when Biden’s approval ratings are in the tank and as many as three-quarters of Democrats tell pollsters they would prefer a different nominee in 2024.

And with the president making a quick recovery from Covid and striking a deal with Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., to enact more of the White House agenda, the White House is revisiting plans for what it says will be a robust travel schedule this fall on behalf of Democratic candidates up and down the ballot.

That belies a recognition, sources close to the White House political operation say, that the president is at a weak political moment — including Biden himself. When a reporter asked the president recently what his message was to Democrats who don’t want him to seek a second term, the president snapped back: “Read the polls, Jack. You guys are all the same. That poll showed that 92% of Democrats, if I ran, would vote for me.”

But in [the poll Biden cited](https://www.nytimes.com/2022/07/11/us/politics/biden-approval-polling-2024.html), conducted by The New York Times and Siena College, 64% of Democrats reported that they would rather the party nominate someone other than him. That figure was at 75% in [a CNN poll](https://www.cnn.com/2022/07/26/politics/cnn-poll-biden-2024/index.html) published Wednesday.

Such polls provide an obvious incentive for other Democrats to start warming the engines of their campaign machines. But White House allies say there’s no opening.

“This is bordering on stupidity,” said Democratic strategist Philippe Reines, a longtime adviser to Hillary Clinton. “If for any reason Biden’s not at the top of the ticket, good luck to anyone denying Kamala the nomination. Especially a white guy,” he said, referring to Vice President Kamala Harris.

Still, some Biden allies worry that he isn’t equipped temperamentally to crush potential threats himself, and say that he hasn’t outfitted his political operation with an invaluable tool: a hatchet man.

#### Biden can’t seal deals through persuasion or leverage.

Nyhan et al. 21, Brendan Nyhan is Professor of Government at Dartmouth College; Bob Garfield and Brooke Gladstone are with On The Media, “Joe Biden and "The Green Lantern Theory of The Presidency",” On the Media, 3/19/21, https://www.wnycstudios.org/podcasts/otm/segments/joe-biden-and-green-lantern-theory-presidency-on-the-media

BROOKE GLADSTONE After a handful of moderate Democrats shot down the minimum wage hike, some progressive journalists blamed Biden for not fighting tooth and nail – I mean, really, really trying – to get it in the bill. This belief that a president's legislative shortcomings are the product of a lack of will is what some media critics call the Green Lantern theory of the presidency. The Green Lantern Corps., for those unfamiliar with the DC Comics canon, are a class of superheroes who can conjure supernatural weapons using sheer willpower. As in that Ryan Reynolds movie from 2011.

[CLIP]

GREEN LANTERN Anything I see in my mind, I can create, I just have to focus.

CAROL Anything? [END CLIP]

BROOKE GLADSTONE But according to Brendan Nyhan, a professor of government at Dartmouth College and the man who coined the term "the Green Lantern theory of the presidency," the idea overstates the power of the executive. He says that even when there's a will, there may not be a way.

BRENDAN NYHAN My understanding is the Green Lantern Corps have a ring whose powers are limited only by the wearer's willpower. Matt Iglesias is a blogger, he originally applied that idea to geopolitics. He was criticizing conservatives who said the failures of U.S. foreign policy in the post 9/11 era were attributable to a lack of will. And I saw that same idea as being applicable to domestic politics too, where the president's powers are actually quite limited.

BROOKE GLADSTONE And so all this brings us to the criticism currently directed at Joe Biden. Many progressives are upset by the failure to include the 15 dollar minimum wage, and argued that Biden could have done more to convince Democratic senators like Joe Manchin of West Virginia and Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona who voted against it. David Sirota wrote in The Guardian, he's a former speechwriter for Bernie Sanders, the famous example from Lyndon B. Johnson's fight for Medicare as proof that a tough president can strong arm members of Congress into adopting his goals.

BRENDAN NYHAN Yeah, I think that LBJ arm twisting myth has been a major contributor to Green Lantern style discourse around the president. That the president can, through the kind of cajoling described in these famous accounts, bring numerous votes to his side in Congress. It's very difficult for the president to move votes in Congress. Ask Barack Obama for most of his time in office. Ask Donald Trump, ask any occupant of the White House. LBJ came into office with huge Democratic majorities. Joe Biden has a margin of zero votes in the Senate. Joe Manchin represents a state where almost 70 percent of people voted for Donald Trump. I'm not sure what arm twisting could cause him to vote against his political interests. The Democrats are an anchor around his neck politically. Withdrawing their support from him is not some kind of a threat. It probably helps him.

BROOKE GLADSTONE Getting back to LBJ, you say that he is one of two main illustrations that would seem to support the Green Lantern theory. The other president is Ronald Reagan.

BRENDAN NYHAN Rather than LBJ style arm twisting. Activists say that the president could marshal public opinion, if they only made the case publicly, they could win over the public to their side and therefore rally Congress to support their priorities. This was a recurring theme in the Obama years because he was a quite skilled orator. The evidence, however, suggests that presidential speechmaking is often ineffective. Ronald Reagan wrote in his own diaries when he was president that his case for aid to the Contras in Latin America failed to rally support, and reportedly he was even told by his own pollster that the public comments he was offering on behalf of the cause were actually making it harder for him by rallying opposition. And that's the dilemma that presidents face. David Frum, the conservative commentator, has argued that one of the most effective communication strategies of the early Biden administration has been how little he has talked. Precisely because it avoids making him the focal point of a conversation, given that presidents are so polarizing in our current era. So, again, the idea here is it's not a case of the president failing to deploy their public communication powers, it's that those public communication powers are highly overrated. Once the president gets the issues where they don't have the votes, sometimes they will try. Barack Obama campaigned quite extensively on behalf of gun control and renewed those efforts after high profile mass shootings. But it was fruitless. He would campaign on behalf of it because maybe it could help move the needle, but it never was enough to successfully enact the legislation the administration was proposing.

BROOKE GLADSTONE You suggested that it's worth paying attention to what Biden doesn't say as much as he does say. Like he didn't talk publicly about the impeachment vote.

BRENDAN NYHAN That's right. He's stayed away from so many controversies like vaccines, where it's very important for everyone in this country to get vaccinated, and for that not to be seen as a partisan or polarizing issue. And so the administration's communication strategy very much emphasizes local and community leaders and trusted sources rather than national political figures who could be more polarizing. That may be a smart kind of communication strategy in 21st century America. Liberals in particular want to believe in a West Wing version of the world where oratory wins people over, and that's just not a way politics works and presidents learn that over and over again.

BROOKE GLADSTONE Of course, the Biden style is the exact opposite of Trump, who you called in 2015, the purest Green Lantern candidate we've seen in recent years. What do you mean?

BRENDAN NYHAN Donald Trump again and again claimed that he would make things happen through sheer force of will. He would cut the best deals. This was most often expressed when it came to trade. Change the balance of trade with China, reverse the decline of American manufacturing.

[CLIP]

TRUMP Politicians are all talk, no action. Nothing's gonna to get done. They will not bring us, believe me, to the promised land. [END CLIP]

BRENDAN NYHAN He promised everything to everyone. And we saw how limited his powers of persuasion were, even in a party that was enthralled to him. Republicans are terrified of being on the wrong side of Donald Trump politically. They're extremely unwilling to support his impeachment, to call out his attacks on the integrity of the election or to denounce the scandals. But when it came to legislation, the Republican Party did what the Republican Party wanted to do for the most part. Donald Trump's signature legislative achievement was a conventional Republican tax cut. His health care policy was a conventional health care policy proposal from the Republican side, which ultimately failed. The only areas where he was able to really change the direction of the party on policy were those that didn't require votes in Congress. He faced all the same legislative constraints that have frustrated past presidents and was not able to bluster past them. However, we discovered during the Trump presidency that we depended on the president respecting the democratic norms of our system, such as not calling for the imprisonment of your political opponents or attacking the integrity of an election in which you were defeated. Those norms can be overridden through sheer force of will. Donald Trump was willing to cross those lines in a way that past presidents weren't. We should not only recognize how frequently presidents overstate their ability to get what they want but be wary of what happens when they actually succeed. [END CLIP]

### 1AR – AT: Renewables IL

#### Can’t solve renewables and provides many fossil fuel concessions

Lisa Friedman & Brad Plumer 7/28, Friedman is a New York Times reporter on the climate desk, previously worked for Climatewire where she led a team of 12 reporters focused on climate, before Climatewire, former Washington bureau chief for The Oakland Tribune and later The Los Angeles Daily News, Plumer is a climate reporter specializing in policy and technology efforts to cut carbon dioxide emissions, 7/28/2022, “Surprise Deal Would Be Most Ambitious Climate Action Undertaken by U.S.”, https://www.nytimes.com/2022/07/28/climate/climate-change-deal-manchin.html -Haoyou

The bill does not, however, address one of the biggest hurdles facing renewable energy: a lack of long-distance power lines to help bring wind and solar power to cities from far-flung rural regions. An earlier version of the bill had included tax credits for new transmission, but that was removed. Without that provision, many wind and solar projects could struggle to get built, said Rob Gramlich, founder of Grid Strategies.

In the longer term, the tax incentives in the bill are expected to nurture emerging technologies like carbon capture for industrial facilities such as steel and cement, next-generation nuclear reactors and the use of hydrogen as a low-carbon fuel. Many of these technologies are too costly for widespread use today, but the hope is that by creating a market for an initial round of projects, costs could be driven down — much as federal tax credits in the 2000s and 2010s helped transform wind and solar power from a pricey niche technology into an affordable mainstream option.

The bill does provide some support for fossil fuels, a concession widely seen as necessary to win support from Mr. Manchin, whose home state of West Virginia is rich in coal and natural gas. For instance, the bill would mandate new lease sales for oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico, something environmental groups had opposed and Mr. Biden had promised to halt as a candidate for the White House.

“It is truly all of the above, which means this bill does not arbitrarily shut off our abundant fossil fuels,” Mr. Manchin said in a statement. He called the package “a “realistic energy and climate policy.”

As part of the agreement, Mr. Manchin said he had also secured a commitment from both Mr. Biden and Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California that Congress would approve a separate measure to address the permitting of energy infrastructure, potentially including natural gas pipelines, before the end of the fiscal year on Sept. 30.