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WLN applauds historic climate, justice investments in Inflation Reduction Act of 2022

Today, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, which includes an unprecedented \$370 billion in climate and energy-related investments to reduce the nation’s carbon emissions by nearly 40 percent by 2030. The vote follows the U.S. Senate’s passage of the bill earlier this week, after months of negotiations on a reconciliation package and its inclusion of climate provisions as outlined in President Biden’s Build Back Better framework.

“After a year of urging federal leaders to address the climate emergency with bold investments, the Inflation Reduction Act is an historic win for local and tribal governments, and all communities suffering the effects of climate change,” **Western Leaders Network Executive Director Gwen Lachelt said.** “The champions of this legislation deserve praise for putting our future first, and supporting programs and infrastructure funding that will build more climate-resilient communities, work toward environmental justice, create quality and much-needed jobs, incentivize renewable energy development, and help meet our nation’s climate goals. The climate emergency requires every tool, and we urge President Biden to now swiftly sign a climate emergency order, so we can get to work implementing these critical programs to better our communities and our climate future.”

The Inflation Reduction Act contains the following programs and infrastructure:

- Production tax credits to accelerate domestic manufacturing of clean energy technology.
- Modernizing the federal oil and gas leasing system to increase royalty rates and end the practice of non-competitive leasing to protect public lands and ensure taxpayers get a fairer return during the transition to a clean energy economy.
- Clean energy tax credits that prioritize domestic energy production and living equitable wages for workers.
- \$9 billion in consumer home energy rebate programs, focused on low-income consumers, to electrify home appliances and for energy efficient retrofits.
- 10 years of consumer tax credits to make homes energy efficient and run on clean energy.

- \$4,000 consumer tax credit for lower and middle income individuals to buy used, clean vehicles, and up to \$7,500 tax credit to buy new clean vehicles.
- \$1 billion grant program to make affordable housing more energy efficient.
- Grants and tax credits to reduce emissions from industrial manufacturing processes.
- A Methane Emissions Reduction Program to reduce the leaks from the production and distribution of natural gas.
- More than \$20 billion to support climate-smart agriculture practices.
- \$5 billion in grants to support healthy, fire resilient forests, forest conservation and urban tree planting.
- \$1 billion in funding for National Environmental Policy Act implementation.
- \$4 billion for western drought response.
- Over \$60 billion in environmental justice priorities.

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