

Dear Colleague:

We want to thank you for participating in our 2023 Issues Conference. One of the major takeaways from our work last week was to focus on implementation of the historic legislation we passed last Congress. Thanks to the good work of President Biden and his Administration, there is a team for us to partner with as we work to turn this legislation into good-paying jobs, lower costs, and new economic opportunities for the American people.

To that end, we wanted to share a number of concrete action items you can take during this state work period. As we discussed, each of us can help lift up our messaging and highlight the great projects and programs that will show the American people the benefits of these laws. Please make sure you take a look at the materials provided during the Issues Conference, as they include ideas for events and key upcoming program deadlines. In addition, please consider the five ideas summarized below. We urge you to hold at least one press event during the state work period.

- Free Shingles Vaccine and \$35/Month Insulin Cap: seniors on Medicare are eligible to take advantage of these benefits right now thanks to the *Inflation Reduction Act*. Both of these programs can save seniors hundreds of dollars per year. You could host a press conference with seniors, make a public visit to a senior center, or highlight a particular family benefiting from these programs on social media.
- Infrastructure Grants: “RAISE” grant funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act is currently open for surface transportation projects that will improve safety, environmental sustainability, and economic competitiveness. The deadline to apply is February 28<sup>th</sup>. You could hold a public event with local government officials or stakeholders that are applying for a grant and urge funding for the project.
- Lower Energy Bills: American consumers can now select from a wide range of incentives from in the *Inflation Reduction Act* and *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law*. The tax credits alone could help families get up to \$14,000 for making their homes more energy efficient. Many of these programs are available now, like the Weatherization Assistance Program, the High-Efficiency Home Electrification Rebate Program, and tax credits for residential clean energy and energy efficient home improvements. Consumers can find what incentives meet their needs by going to [www.whitehouse.gov/cleanenergy](http://www.whitehouse.gov/cleanenergy). These benefits are a tailor-made opportunity for you to hold a press event with homeowners in your state and urge your constituents to take advantage of the programs. We will send you and your staff a separate, detailed memo on this issue.

· Manufacturing and Construction Jobs: The *Inflation Reduction Act* includes a variety of made-in-America clean energy manufacturing and construction programs that will result in hundreds of billions of investments in the U.S. This week, the Treasury Department issued new guidance on two major manufacturing and economic development incentives from the *Inflation Reduction Act*, and the Dept. of Energy announced one industrial grant program from the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law*. You could hold public roundtables or other events with potential applicants for both of these programs.

○ The first notice establishes the expanded Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit program under Section 48C of the Internal Revenue Code. This program provides incentives for clean energy property manufacturing and recycling, industrial decarbonization, and critical materials processing, refining, and recycling. The *Inflation Reduction Act* provided \$10 billion in new funding for the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit program Congress required that at least \$4 billion be reserved for projects in communities with closed coal mines or retired coal-fired power plants. The initial funding round will include \$4 billion, with about \$1.6 billion reserved for projects in coal communities. The application process for the Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit program will begin on May 31, 2023.

○ The second notice establishes the Low-Income Communities Bonus Credit program under Section 48(e) of the Internal Revenue Code, which provides a boost of up to 20 percentage points to the investment tax credit for solar and wind energy projects in low-income communities. The application process for the Low-Income Communities Bonus Credit program will open in 2023 in two phases. Applications for facilities that are part of low-income residential buildings and those that benefit low-income households will be accepted first, with applications for other projects to follow.

○ DOE also opened applications for the \$750 million Advanced Energy Manufacturing and Recycling Grant Program, funded by the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law*, to support industrial projects by small- and medium-sized manufacturers in energy communities.

- Mental Health Resources: To address the growing mental health crisis, we passed over \$20 billion dollars across multiple bills to support individuals and communities in need. Significant increases for pediatric mental health care, Community Mental Health Services Block Grants, and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grants will aid communities struggling with the mental health crisis. We also took real action

to expand access to care through the nationwide expansion of the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic program and address the workforce crisis, including by training more psychiatrists and increasing access to providers in Medicare. There are opportunities for you to hold public events with individuals or stakeholders pushing for this funding. We will send you and your staff a separate, detailed memo on this issue.

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