2020 CLIMATE BILL PACKAGE

INDEX

Scroll down for Bill Summaries.

Short link: <http://bit.ly/2020BillSummary>

Package Toolkit (Email your Rep): <http://bit.ly/PackageToolkit>

Carbon Clock: <http://bit.ly/CarbonClockBerlin>  
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MATERIALS:

1. REFRIGERANTS: AMERICAN INNOVATION & MANUFACTURING ACT. Sen. John Kennedy (R-LA), Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE), Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY), Rep. Pete Olson (R-TX), Reps. Scott Peters (D-CA) and Elise Stefanik (R-NY) (Overview, [Text S2754,](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2754/text) [Text HR5544](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5544/text), [Sponsor Statement](https://tonko.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=2963), Section-by-Section, Group Support). Votes: H28, S34. Lead Sponsor Contact: Laura Gilliam, Sen. Carper’s office, (202) 224-6159 Laura\_Gillam@epw.senate.gov. Lead NGO contact: Alex Hillibrand, NRDC, ahillbrand@nrdc.org.
2. PLASTICS: THE BREAK FREE FROM PLASTIC POLLUTION ACT. Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM), Rep. Alan S. Lowenthal (D-CA) ([Overview](https://drive.google.com/file/d/19XBO6XD_OIkCm-eMJc1_nEhEgXxdiISS/view?usp=sharing), [Text H5845,](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5845/text) [Sponsor Statement](https://www.tomudall.senate.gov/news/press-releases/udall-lowenthal-merkley-clark-unveil-landmark-legislation-to-break-free-from-plastic-pollution), [Section-by-Section](https://www.tomudall.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Press%20Packet.pdf), [Group Support](https://www.tomudall.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Large%20Endorsement%20Letter.pdf), [FAQ](https://drive.google.com/file/d/162jkPsFWqWue0Y6VspZ39BcoNBB5z3Ps/view?usp=sharing)). Votes: S10, H83. Lead Sponsor Contact: Shane Trimmer, Rep. Lowenthal's office [Shane.Trimmer@mail.house.gov](mailto:Shane.Trimmer@mail.house.gov). Lead NGO contact: Brian Langloss,Oceana, [blangloss@oceana.org](mailto:blangloss@oceana.org).
3. PESTICIDES: PROTECT AMERICA’S CHILDREN FROM TOXIC PESTICIDES ACT of 2020 (PACTPA). Sen. Udall (D-NM), Rep. Negusa (D-CO). ([Overview](https://www.tomudall.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/PACTPA%20Press%20Packet.pdf), [Text](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7940/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22toxic+pesticides+protect+america%27s+children%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=1), [Sponsor Statement](https://www.tomudall.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/PACTPA%20Press%20Packet.pdf), Section-by-Section, Group Support). Votes: H15, Senate version not filed yet.

FARMING & LAND:

1. REGENERATIVE FARMING: AGRICULTURE RESILIENCE ACT. Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME) ([Overview](https://pingree.house.gov/netzeroagriculture/agriculture-resilience-act.htm), [Text H5861](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5861/text), [Sponsor Statement](https://pingree.house.gov/netzeroagriculture/), Section-by-Section, [Group Support)](https://pingree.house.gov/netzeroagriculture/ara-statements-of-support.htm). Votes: H22, No Senate Bill. Lead Sponsor Contacts: (TBA) . Lead NGO Contact, Jake Davis, Family Farm Action, jake@localrootstrategies.com.
2. FORESTS, WETLANDS, JOBS: THE CLIMATE STEWARDSHIP ACT. Sen. Cory A. Booker (D-NJ), Rep. Debra A. Haaland (D-NM) (Overview, [Text H4269](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4269),[S.2452](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2452), [Sponsor Statement](https://www.booker.senate.gov/news/press/with-fdrs-new-deal-as-blueprint-booker-introduces-climate-change-bill-focused-on-investing-in-farm-conservation-programs-reforestation-and-wetlands-restoration), [Section-by-Section](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.scribd.com_document_420980166_CSA-2DSection-2Dby-2DSection-2D8-2D6&d=DwMGaQ&c=jGUuvAdBXp_VqQ6t0yah2g&r=bS_zbdXAGA9nQ1scZX8qPGeLmHf3Z0huazTbqtJ-T50&m=pOPSmPLbY1KKp26vSd8DlVxEZ1Pi0yQLolra6D68lAg&s=3ojhhImYItdxvcRvFbxfgkk7l5qS_kDGVHgDJ1TEbBs&e=), [Group Support](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kVc58nGXtAsZB1czzBD-uW8HSDbbtiiK5yf8JffieUk/edit?usp=sharing) 70+). Votes: H10, S4. Lead Sponsor Contacts: Adam Zipkin, Senator Booker’s office, [adam\_zipkin@booker.senate.gov](mailto:adam_zipkin@booker.senate.gov). Heide Todacheene, Rep. Haaland, [heidi.todacheene@mail.house.gov](mailto:heidi.todacheene@mail.house.gov). Lead NGO Contact, Jake Davis, Family Farm Action, jake@localrootstrategies.com.
3. ANTITRUST AGRICULTURE: THE FOOD & AGRIBUSINESS MERGER MORATORIUM ACT. Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ), Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI) ([Overview,](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1596) [Text S1596](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1596/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22THE+FOOD+%26+AGRIBUSINESS+MERGER+MORATORIUM+ACT%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=1), [HR2933](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2933/text),  [Sponsor Statement](https://www.booker.senate.gov/news/press/booker-introduces-bill-to-place-moratorium-on-ag-mergers), Section-by-Section, [Group Support](https://www.booker.senate.gov/news/press/booker-introduces-bill-to-place-moratorium-on-ag-mergers)). Votes: H17, S3. Lead Sponsor Contacts: Adam Zipkin, Senator Booker’s office, [adam\_zipkin@booker.senate.gov](mailto:adam_zipkin@booker.senate.gov). Sydney Scott, Rep. Pocan, [sydney.scott@mail.house.gov](mailto:sydney.scott@mail.house.gov). Lead NGO Contact, Jake Davis, Family Farm Action, jake@localrootstrategies.com.
4. CONFINED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS: FARM SYSTEMS REFORM ACT. Sen. Booker (D-NJ). Rep. Khanna (D-CA-17) (Overview, [Text HR6718](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/6718/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22farm+systems+reform+act%22%5D%7D&r=2&s=2), [Sponsor Statement](https://www.booker.senate.gov/news/press/booker-unveils-bill-to-reform-farm-system), [Section-by-Section](https://www.scribd.com/document/439679593/Section-by-Section-Summary-Farm-System-Reform-Act), [Group Support](https://www.scribd.com/document/439882939/Farm-System-Reform-Act-Endorsements)). Votes: H16, S3. Lead Sponsor Contact, Adam Zipkin for Sen. Booker, [adam\_zipkin@booker.senate.gov](mailto:adam_zipkin@booker.senate.gov). Kevin Fox for Rep. Khanna, [kevin.fox@mail.house.gov](mailto:kevin.fox@mail.house.gov). Lead NGO Contact, Jake Davis, Family Farm Action, [jake@localrootstrategies.com](mailto:jake@localrootstrategies.com).

FOSSIL FUEL MANAGEMENT

1. FRACKING: BAN FRACKING ACT. Sen. Bernard Sanders (I-VT), Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) (Overview, [Text H5857](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5857/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22ban+fracking+act%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=2), [Sponsor Statement](https://www.sanders.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/sanders-ocasio-cortez-lead-first-ever-bill-to-ban-fracking-nationwide), [Section-by-Section](https://www.sanders.senate.gov/download/fracking-summary), [Group Support](https://foodandwaterwatch.org/sites/default/files/fracking_ban_act_sign-on_letter.pdf) 570+). Votes: H19, S2. Lead NGO Contact, Jim Walsh, Food & Water Action, [jwalsh@fwwatch.org](mailto:jwalsh@fwwatch.org).
2. FOSSIL FUEL TAX SUBSIDIES: END POLLUTER WELFARE ACT. Sen. Sanders, Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN). ([Overview](https://www.sanders.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/EPW_Act_fact_sheet.pdf), House [Text](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7781/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22end+pollutor+welfare+act%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=2) H7781, [Sponsor Statement](https://omar.house.gov/sites/omar.house.gov/files/EPWA%20-%20Summary%20One%20.pdf), Section-by-Section, Group Support). Votes: H11, S (Not filed yet). Lead Sponsor Contacts: Katie Thomas, Sen. Sander, Katie\_Thomas@sanders.senate.gov, 8-6353; Maria Martirosyan, Rep. Omar,

Maria.Martirosyan@mail.house.gov, 5-4755.

ENVIRO JUSTICE & JUST TRANSITION:

10. EJ & JT: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR ALL ACT. Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA), Rep. Grijalva (D-AZ), Rep. McEachin (Overview, Text [S4401](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4401/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22environmental+justice+for+all+act%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=2#toc-H4B68978B4ABE4916B988EBB8D351AA0B), [H5986](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5986/text), [Sponsor Statement](https://www.harris.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/EJ%20for%20All%20Act%20-%201%20pager.pdf), Section-by-Section, Group Support). Votes: H63, S15. Lead Sponsor Contact: (TBA). Lead NGO Contact: Anthony Rodgers-Wright, Climate Justice Alliance, anthonyrogerswright@gmail.com.

BILL SUMMARIES

MATERIALS

1. REFRIGERANTS: AMERICAN INNOVATION & MANUFACTURING ACT (AIM Act).

The AIM Act gives needed certainty to the HVACR industry, delivers a streamlined regulatory procedure and provides consumers with more efficient cooling and refrigeration products. The bill will provide a responsible phase down of HFC’s and will stimulate additional economic benefits by creating an additional 33,000 manufacturing jobs, improving the U.S. trade balance in equipment and chemicals by $12.5 billion annually and increasing exports by $5 billion. Studies forecast the overall contribution to the HVACR industry will be 2.5 million jobs and $621 billion in economic output by 2027. Reps. Scott Peters (D-CA) and Elise Stefanik (R-NY) join Tonko and Olson as original co-sponsors.

The AIM Leadership Act relies on three key components:

* A market-based allocation system for the producers of HFC compounds that gradually phases down their production and use
* A flexible program for future user sectors to achieve the transition of the user technology sectors
* A heightened emphasis for improved management of refrigerant substances where relevant

Passage of the AIM Act would accomplish three main goals:

* Gradually phase down the production and consumption of HFCs over a 15-year period via an allowance allocation and trading program
* Authorize the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish standards for the management of HFCs used as refrigerants, such as in equipment servicing and repair, and for the recovery of “used” HFCs for purification and resale, allowing for a safe and efficient transition out of HFCs
* Authorizing EPA to establish sector-based use restrictions as a way to facilitate transitions to next-generation refrigerant technologies

2. PLASTICS: THE BREAK FREE FROM PLASTIC POLLUTION ACT.

The Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act will provide badly-needed national leadership – reducing the amount of wasteful plastic and reforming our broken waste and recycling collection system. It will shift the burden of cleanup to where it belongs: on the corporations that produce this waste:

→ Require big corporations take responsibility for their pollution, requiring producers of plastic products to design, manage, and finance waste and recycling programs.

→ Spur innovation, incentivizing big corporations to make reusable products and items that can actually be recycled.

→ Create a nationwide beverage container refund program, which is successful at the state level.

→ Reduce and ban certain single-use plastic products that are not recyclable.

→ Establish minimum recycled content requirements for beverage containers, packaging, and food-service products.

→ Spur massive investments in U.S. domestic recycling and composting infrastructure, while pressing pause on new plastic facilities until critical environment and health protections are put in place.

MORE DETAIL:

The Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act will:

Require Product Producers to Take Responsibility for Collecting and Recycling Waste:

→ The bill requires producers of covered products (packaging, containers, food service products and paper) to design, manage, and finance programs to collect and process product waste that would normally burden state and local governments. The legislation will encourage producers to cooperate with those who produce similar products through Producer Responsibility Organizations (PRO) to take responsibility for their waste and implement cleanup programs with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approval.

→ Producers will invest in U.S. domestic recycling and composting infrastructure, cover the costs of waste management and clean-up, and promote awareness-raising measures to reduce waste.

Create Nationwide Beverage Container Refunds:

→ The legislation will incentivize consumers to recycle by creating a 10-cent national refund program for all beverage containers, regardless of material, to be refunded to customers when they return containers.

→ Any unclaimed refunds will go to beverage producers to supplement investments in nationwide collection and recycling infrastructure. This legislation encourages states that have already implemented similar initiatives to continue their current systems if they match the federal requirements.

Source Reduction and Phase-Out Top Polluting Products:

→ Beginning in January 2022, some of the most common single-use plastic products that pollute our environment, cannot be recycled, and have readily-available alternatives will be source reduced and phased out from sale and distribution. The prohibitions will apply to lightweight plastic carryout bags, food and drinkware from expanded polystyrene, plastic stirrers and plastic utensils. Straws will only be available upon request.

Carryout Bag Fee:

→ The legislation would impose a fee on the distribution of carryout bags.

→ The bill allows retailers who implement a reusable bag credit program to retain the fee to finance the program. Fees collected from retailers without a bag credit program will fund public access to reusable bags as well as litter clean up and recycling infrastructure.

Create a Minimum Recycled Content Requirement:

→ The bill requires plastic beverage containers to include an increasing percentage of recycled content in their products before entering the market. Informed by a feasibility study by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the EPA will also phase in new requirements for producers to manufacture containers from recycled content. The recycled content requirements will steadily increase over time.

Standardize Recycling and Composting:

→ The EPA will develop standardized recycling and composting labels for products and receptacles to encourage proper sorting and disposal of items that can be recycled or composted.

Review Effects of Plastic Tobacco Filters, Electronic Cigarettes and Derelict Fishing Gear:

→ Following studies on the environmental impacts of plastic tobacco filters, electronic cigarette parts and derelict fishing gear, the relevant agencies will propose measures to reduce those environmental impacts.

Prevent Plastic Waste from Being Shipped to Developing Countries that Cannot Manage It:

→ The United States has exported plastic waste, scrap, and pairings to developing countries with the claim that the material would be recycled. However, the majority of this material has instead fueled the global plastic pollution crisis by overburdening countries with already strained waste management systems.

→ The bill prevents the export of plastic waste, scrap and pairings to countries that are not part of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), many of whom have been a major source of ocean plastic pollution due to their inability to manage the waste. The bill also requires that the United States receive consent from countries receiving the waste before it is exported.

Protect Existing State Action:

→ The bill protects the ability of state and local governments to enact more stringent standards, requirements, and additional product bans.

Temporarily Pause New Plastic Facilities:

→ The legislation gives environmental agencies the valuable time needed to investigate the cumulative impacts of new and expanded plastic-producing facilities on the air, water, climate, and communities before issuing new permits to increase plastic production. The legislation would also update EPA regulations to eliminate factory-produced plastic pollution in waterways and direct the EPA to update existing Clean Air and Clean Water Act emission and discharge standards to ensure that plastic producing facilities integrate the latest technology to prevent further pollution.

3. PROTECT AMERICA’S CHILDREN FROM TOXIC PESTICIDES ACT of 2020 (PACTPA).

U.S. Senator Tom Udall (D-N.M.), ranking member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, and U.S. Representative Joe Neguse (D-Colo.) (Senator Udall [Press Release](https://www.tomudall.senate.gov/news/press-releases/udall-neguse-introduce-landmark-pesticide-reform-to-protect-children-farmworkers-and-consumers-from-toxic-pesticides)).

The Protect America’s Children from Toxic Pesticides Act of 2020 would:

Ban some of the most damaging pesticides:  
- Organophosphate insecticides, which are designed to target the neurological system and have been linked to neurodevelopmental damage in children;  
  
- Neonicotinoid insecticides, which have contributed to pollinator collapse around the world (the European Union and Canada have significantly restricted or banned their use to protect pollinators and other wildlife) and have recently been shown to cause developmental defects, heart deformations, and muscle tremors in unborn children;  
  
- Paraquat, which is one of the most acutely toxic herbicides in the world, according to the EPA, just "one sip can kill." Science has shown that chronic exposure to paraquat increases risk of developing Parkinson's disease by 200% to 600%. It is already banned in 32 countries, including the European Union

Restore balance to protect ordinary citizens by:  
- Creating a petition process to enable individual citizens to petition the EPA to identify dangerous pesticides so that the EPA would no longer be able to indefinitely allow dangerous pesticides to remain on the market;  
- Closing dangerous loopholes that have allowed the EPA to issue emergency exemptions and conditional registrations to use pesticides before they have gone through full health and safety review by the agency;   
- Enabling local communities to enact protective legislation and other policies without being vetoed or preempted by state law;  
- Suspending the use of pesticides deemed unsafe by the E.U. or Canada until they are thoroughly reviewed by the EPA.

Provide protections for frontline communities that bear the burden of pesticide exposure by:  
- Requiring employers of farmworkers to report all pesticide-caused injuries to the EPA, with strong penalties for failure to report injuries or retaliating against workers;  
- Directing the EPA to review pesticide injury reports and work with the pesticide manufacturers to develop better labeling to prevent future injury;  
- Requiring that all pesticide label instructions be written in Spanish and in any language spoken by more than 500 pesticide applicators.

This bill is also sponsored by U.S. Senators Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), Cory Booker (D-N.J.), and Bernard Sanders (I-Vt.). In the House, the bill is sponsored by U.S. Representatives Jahana Hayes (D-Conn.), Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.), Nanette Diaz Barragán (D-Calif.), Raúl M. Grijalva (D-Ariz.), Pramila Jayapal (D-Wash.), Adriano Espaillat (D-N.Y.) and Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.).

The full text of the legislation can be found [HERE](https://www.tomudall.senate.gov/download/pactpa-bill-text-). A summary and extensive background materials can be found [HERE](https://www.tomudall.senate.gov/download/pactpa-press-packet).

FARMING & LAND

4. AGRICULTURE RESILIENCE ACT.

AGRICULTURE RESILIENCE ACT. Rep. Pingree.  
  
Currently, agricultural activities contribute 8.4% of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. To reach net-zero agricultural emissions within the next 20 years, the ARA focuses on six concrete policy areas and offers solutions rooted in science that are farmer-driven. These goals include:

1. Increasing Research: The ARA would ensure existing agriculture research programs prioritize climate change research, increase funding for USDA’s Regional Climate Hubs, support public breed and cultivar research, and create a new SARE Agricultural and Food System Resilience Initiative for farmer and rancher research and demonstration grants.
2. Improving Soil Health: The ARA would create a new soil health grant program for state and tribal governments, authorize USDA to offer performance-based crop insurance discounts for practices that reduce risk, expand the National Agroforestry Center by authorizing three additional regional centers, and explore new ways to reward farmers such as future carbon markets or tax incentives for soil carbon sequestration.
3. Protecting existing farmland: ARA would increase funding for the Local Agriculture Market Program, which Pingree championed in the 2018 Farm Bill, and create a new subprogram for farm viability and local climate resilience centers to help farmers reach new markets. The bill would also increase funding for the Agriculture Conservation Easement Program and amend the tax code to exclude from gross income the gain from the sale of 1) permanent conservation easements and 2) farm property to beginning, socially disadvantaged, veteran and young farmers.
4. Supporting pasture-based livestock systems: The ARA would create a new alternative manure management program to support an array of livestock methane management strategies, a new grant program to help very small meat processors cover the costs associated with meeting federal inspection guidelines, and a Grasslands 30 pilot program within the Conservation Reserve Program to enroll grassland that is exiting CRP or at risk of conversion.
5. Boosting investments in on-farm energy initiatives: The ARA would increase funding for the Rural Energy for America Program, direct USDA to study dual-use renewable energy and cropping or livestock systems, and move the AgSTAR program to NRCS to provide technical assistance to farmers interested in reducing methane emissions through anaerobic digestion.
6. Reducing food waste: The ARA would standardize food date labels to reduce consumer confusion, create a new USDA program to reduce food waste in schools, and increase federal support for composting and anaerobic digestion food waste-to-energy projects.

5. FORESTS, WETLANDS, JOBS: THE CLIMATE STEWARDSHIP ACT.

The *Climate Stewardship Act* will:

* Plant over 16 billion trees by 2050, on a combination of federal, state, local, tribal, and non-governmental lands. The ambitious level of tree planting outlined in the Climate Stewardship Act makes it the biggest reforestation measure ever to be introduced in Congress.
* Plant over 400 million of these trees in urban neighborhoods across America, with the priority going to low-income neighborhoods and communities of color. In addition to sequestering carbon, trees also absorb harmful air pollutants and reduce temperatures in urban areas.
* Support voluntary climate stewardship practices on over 100 million acres of farmland, [reducing or offsetting agricultural emissions by one-third by 2025](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.scribd.com_document_420980193_CSA-2DAgriculture-2DTitle-2D2025-2DEmission-2DReductions-2DOffset-2DSummary&d=DwMGaQ&c=jGUuvAdBXp_VqQ6t0yah2g&r=bS_zbdXAGA9nQ1scZX8qPGeLmHf3Z0huazTbqtJ-T50&m=pOPSmPLbY1KKp26vSd8DlVxEZ1Pi0yQLolra6D68lAg&s=-QmWDhVNwS_S_pn2YsTTxBsM9Tw5z3KKIOx389x7RjQ&e=), through:
* + Providing tens of billions of dollars of supplemental funding for USDA working lands conservation programs, with new funding dedicated to stewardship practices such as [rotational grazing](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.nrcs.usda.gov_Internet_FSE-5FDOCUMENTS_stelprdb1255132.pdf&d=DwMGaQ&c=jGUuvAdBXp_VqQ6t0yah2g&r=bS_zbdXAGA9nQ1scZX8qPGeLmHf3Z0huazTbqtJ-T50&m=pOPSmPLbY1KKp26vSd8DlVxEZ1Pi0yQLolra6D68lAg&s=zVkNMcs9UJw_5Nn06OLPfdDCOu-LZxFBvuvN-Mwe9S8&e=), [improved fertilizer efficiency](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.nrcs.usda.gov_Internet_FSE-5FDOCUMENTS_stelprdb1255175.pdf&d=DwMGaQ&c=jGUuvAdBXp_VqQ6t0yah2g&r=bS_zbdXAGA9nQ1scZX8qPGeLmHf3Z0huazTbqtJ-T50&m=pOPSmPLbY1KKp26vSd8DlVxEZ1Pi0yQLolra6D68lAg&s=7ZrWYdialdlKEWHctkJSMTcOt5Fo7H5PEL5oKfucTh8&e=), and planting tens of millions of new acres of [cover crops](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.nrcs.usda.gov_Internet_FSE-5FDOCUMENTS_stelprdb1263481.pdf&d=DwMGaQ&c=jGUuvAdBXp_VqQ6t0yah2g&r=bS_zbdXAGA9nQ1scZX8qPGeLmHf3Z0huazTbqtJ-T50&m=pOPSmPLbY1KKp26vSd8DlVxEZ1Pi0yQLolra6D68lAg&s=aCx2SJx6tji9oQ5JeEmQ0apQ8KMwM6U2zwiEh04aZhM&e=).
  + Protecting millions of acres of environmentally sensitive farmland.
  + Doubling funding for agricultural research programs, including more funding for soil health demonstration trials.
  + Tripling USDA funding to provide farmers with expert technical assistance on climate stewardship practices.
  + Providing grant funding to tens of thousands of farmers, ranchers and rural businesses for renewable energy production, such as solar panels and wind turbines, and energy efficiency improvements.
* Invest in local and regional food systems to increase resilience in rural and urban communities.
* Restore or protect over 2 million acres of coastal wetlands by 2030 to sequester carbon emissions and reduce coastal flooding. Coastal wetlands act as an important sponge during extreme weather events with heavy rainfall. For example, although New Jersey has lost more than 40 percent of its coastal wetlands, the wetlands remaining helped prevent [$625 million](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.nature.com_articles_s41598-2D017-2D09269-2Dz&d=DwMGaQ&c=jGUuvAdBXp_VqQ6t0yah2g&r=bS_zbdXAGA9nQ1scZX8qPGeLmHf3Z0huazTbqtJ-T50&m=pOPSmPLbY1KKp26vSd8DlVxEZ1Pi0yQLolra6D68lAg&s=HiDPDJkIKCf6i4jSTaX_kiYrp95K2Kq97YrgBI_2KGk&e=) of property damage during Hurricane Sandy in 2012.
* Reestablish the Civilian Conservation Corps to provide youth from low-income communities, indigenous communities, and communities of color with skills and work experience in forestry and wetlands restoration.

6. ANTITRUST AGRICULTURE: THE FOOD & AGRIBUSINESS MERGER MORATORIUM and ANTITRUST REVIEW ACT.

Official Summary: This bill places a moratorium on certain acquisitions between large agricultural and retail-related businesses and establishes the Food and Agriculture Concentration and Market Power Review Commission. The commission shall report to Congress and the President on (1) the nature and consequences of market concentration in the U.S. food and agricultural economy, and (2) recommended legal and regulatory changes to address such market concentration.

Sponsor Statement (Press Release): U.S. Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) today announced the introduction of a bill that would put an 18-month moratorium on large agribusiness, food and beverage manufacturing, and grocery retail mergers and acquisitions. S.3404, The Food and Agribusiness Merger Moratorium and Antitrust Review Act of 2018, is aimed at the unprecedented concentration in the agriculture and food sectors, which is squeezing small family farmers, driving down wages for workers, and hurting rural communities.

In just the past two years, chemical and seed company acquisitions and mergers have allowed just three companies to control two-thirds of the crop seed and nearly 70 percent of the agriculture chemical markets. Meanwhile, net farm income for US farmers has fallen by more than half in just five years.

7. FARM SYSTEMS REFORM ACT.

The *Farm System Reform Act of 2019* would:

* Place an immediate moratorium on new and expanding large CAFOs, and phase out by 2040 the largest CAFOs as [defined](https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/sector_table.pdf) by the Environmental Protection Agency
* Hold corporate integrators responsible for pollution and other harm caused by CAFOs
* Provide a voluntary buyout for farmers who want to transition out of operating a CAFO
* Strengthen the Packers and Stockyards Act to protect family farmers and ranchers, including:
  + Prohibit the use of unfair tournament or ranking systems for paying contract growers
  + Protect livestock and poultry farmers from retaliation
  + Create market transparency and protect farmers and ranchers from predatory purchasing practices
* Restore mandatory country-of-origin labeling requirements for beef and pork and expand to dairy products
* Prohibit the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) from labeling foreign imported meat products as “Product of USA”

(next page)

FOSSIL FUEL MANAGEMENT

8. FRACKING BAN ACT.

The Ban Fracking Act would institute an immediate federal ban on all new federal permits for fracking-related infrastructure and a ban on fracking within 2,500 feet of homes and schools by 2021. Then, starting in 2025, it would ban fracking nationwide.

The legislation also initiates a just transition for the working families in the fracking industry.The bill directs the Department of Labor to partner with other federal agencies and stakeholders, including representatives of organized labor, to develop a plan to prioritize the placement of fossil fuel workers into good-paying jobs in the communities in which they live as the United States moves quickly to an energy system based on sustainable energy and energy efficiency.

The bill highlights the dangers of fracking to public health, workers and communities, and averting climate change, and commissions a nationwide Environmental Protection Agency survey of fracked oil and natural gas wells.

9. END POLLUTER WELFARE ACT.

IT IS TIME TO END FOSSIL FUEL WELFARE At a time when we have a record debt, Congress should not continue to give away taxpayer money to the established, highly profitable fossil fuel industry. Fossil fuels are subsidized at nearly 6 times the rate of renewable energy. From 2002 to 2008, the US Government gave the mature fossil fuel industry over $72 billion in subsidies, while investments in the emerging renewable industry totaled $12.2 billion.

The fossil fuel energy industry does not need taxpayer subsidies. In 2011, the Big Five oil companies alone made $137 billion in profits. During the first quarter of 2012, the Big Five oil companies earned a combined $33.5 billion, or $368 million per day.

Unlike renewable energy incentives which periodically expire and require Congress to approve extensions, the fossil fuel industry has dozens of subsidies permanently engrained in the tax code from decades of successful lobbying. In 2011, the oil, gas, and coal industries spent a combined $167 million on lobbying the federal government.

STOP MORE THAN $110 BILLION IN FOSSIL FUEL GIVEAWAYS OVER NEXT TEN YEARS The bill would comprehensively abolish fossil fuel subsidies, saving taxpayers billions of dollars. It ends tax breaks, eliminates special financing, does away with taxpayer funded fossil fuel R&D, and sets fair royalties policies to ensure the fossil fuel corporations pay their fair share.

Examples of these giveaways include: OIL, GAS, and COAL TAX BREAKS $14 Billion Saved by eliminating the intangible drilling deduction. $12 Billion Saved by repealing a 2004 law that allows fossil fuel corporations to take deductions aimed at helping American manufacturers by claiming they are manufacturers. $6.8 Billion Saved by closing the loophole that allows corporations like BP to deduct money they spend cleaning up their own oil spills and paying damages. SPECIAL FINANCING $2.4 Billion Saved by stopping fossil fuel companies from investing through Master Limited Partnerships, an option not available to clean energy businesses. TAXPAYER FUNDED R&D $3.7 Billion Saved by shutting the federal Office of Fossil Energy. ROYALTIES $10.6 Billion Saved by recouping lost royalties for offshore drilling in public waters.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & JUST TRANSITION

10. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR ALL ACT.

* Amends and Strengthens the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Prohibits discrimination based on disparate impacts and overturns Alexander v. Sandoval.

* Requires the Consideration of Cumulative Impacts Explicitly adds cumulative impacts in permitting decisions under the Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act.
* Codifies the Clinton Administration’s Environmental Justice Executive Order Creates a working group to ensure compliance and enforcement and develop government-wide strategies.
* Reinforces the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Requires early and meaningful involvement in actions impacting communities, including Tribes.
* Asserts Health Equity Funds programs to study potentially harmful products marketed towards women and girls of color.
* Provides Outdoor Access for All Establishes programs to ensure more equitable access to parks and the outdoors.
* Establishes Environmental Justice Grant Programs Funds grants for research, education, and projects to address environmental and public health issues.
* Ensures a Fair and Just Transition Establishes a Federal Energy Transition Economic Development Assistance Fund to support communities and workers as they transition away from fossil fuel-dependent economies.

END OF SUMMARIES.