**FEDERAL CLIMATE BILLS**

**DISCUSSION LIST - NEW BILLS**

**(See Existing:** [**2020 Climate Bill Package**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PL4DNuaf1Xghy8vaN4YXfC0bYlgl_hU8dMgrqzMYKSY/edit?usp=sharing) **of 10 Bills)**

**INDEX (Scroll down for Bill Summaries)**

**FARMING & LAND**

1. **INTERNATIONAL FORESTS: FOREST CRIME-FREE SUPPLY CHAIN** (**Temporary name, not yet filed, due 11/20,** materials coming). Sen. Schatz (D-HI), Rep. Blumenauer (D-OR). (Overview, Text, Sponsor Statement, Section-by-Section, Group Support). Votes: pending. Lead NGO Contact: Rick Jacobsen, Environmental Investigation Agency, [rjacobsen@eia-global.org](mailto:rjacobsen@eia-global.org).
2. **JUSTICE FOR BLACK FARMERS ACT.** See below.

**FOSSIL FUEL MANAGEMENT**

1. **FUTURE GENERATIONS PROTECTION ACT.**  Rep. Jan Schakowsky (IL-9), Rep. Nanette Barragán (CA-44). (Overview, Text, [Sponsor Statement](https://schakowsky.house.gov/media/press-releases/schakowsky-barrag-n-introduce-legislation-end-fossil-fuel-expansion-and-protect), Section-by-Section, Group Support). Votes (Not online yet). Lead Sponsor Contacts: TBD. Lead NGO Contact: Jim Walsh, Food & Water Action, [jwalsh@fwwatch.org](mailto:jwalsh@fwwatch.org).

**FOSSIL FUELS FINANCING (Banks)**

1. [Protecting America’s Economy from the Carbon Bubble Act of 2020](https://stopthemoneypipeline.com/merkley-bills/?fbclid=IwAR0jIECrmakn04vGMns5QXSJ88cnbKrhTDyxmxQfw25bF4CG82oCtvvIOJY). Sen. Markley (D-MA) (Overview, Text, Sponsor Statement, Section-by-Section, [Group Support](https://stopthemoneypipeline.com/merkley-bills/?fbclid=IwAR0jIECrmakn04vGMns5QXSJ88cnbKrhTDyxmxQfw25bF4CG82oCtvvIOJY)).

**ENVIRO JUSTICE & JUST TRANSITION**

**5. CLIMATE EQUITY ACT**. **Not filed yet**. Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA), Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY). (Overview, [2019 Draft Text](https://www.harris.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/DISCUSSION%20DRAFT%20-%20Climate%20Equity%20Act.pdf), [Sponsor Statement](https://www.harris.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/CEA%20background.pdf), Section-by-Section, Group Support). Lead NGO Contact: Anthony Rodgers-Wright, Climate Justice Alliance, anthonyrogerswright@gmail.com.

**IN-DISCUSSION BILLS & CONGRESSIONAL PROPOSALS**

**FOSSIL FUEL MANAGEMENT  
  
1. CARBON TAX: CARBON ACTION REBATE ACT.** Sen Chris Coons (D-Del.), Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Cal.), and Rep. Jimmy Panetta (D-Cal.) ([Overview](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4051), [Text H4051](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4051/text?), Sponsor Statement, [Section-by-Section](https://www.coons.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Climate%20Action%20Rebate%20Act%20Section-by-Section_.pdf), Group Support). Votes: H5, S1   
**2. ENERGY INNOVATION & CARBON DIVIDEND ACT of 2019. Materials coming. (Overview,** [**Text HR763**](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/763/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22energy+innovation+and+carbon%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=4)**, Sponsor Statement, Section-by-Section, Group Support). Votes: H81.   
  
CONGRESSIONAL PROPOSALS: (Not yet filed - for discussion & comparison).**

**3. 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY, TRANSPORT, JOBS: THE CLIMATE LEADERSHIP and ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION for OUR NATION'S FUTURE ("CLEAN Future Act") (Draft).** Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s Subcommittee on Energy, U.S. Rep. Bobby L. Rush (D-Ill.), Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Rep. Frank Pallone Jr. (D-N.J.), Environment and Climate Change Subcommittee Chairman Rep. Paul Tonko (D-N.Y.), (Overview, [Text Draft](https://energycommerce.house.gov/sites/democrats.energycommerce.house.gov/files/documents/0128%20CLEAN%20Future%20Discussion%20Draft.pdf), [Sponsor Statement](https://rush.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/chairman-rush-committee-leaders-release-draft-clean-future-act), [Section-by-Section](https://energycommerce.house.gov/sites/democrats.energycommerce.house.gov/files/documents/Section-by-Section%20of%20CLEAN%20Future%20Act%20.pdf), Group Support). Votes: Draft, no votes yet.

4. **ENERGY, TRANSPORT: AMERICAN ENERGY INNOVATION ACT (Draft).** Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W.VA) ([Overview,](https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?a=files.serve&File_id=4BC53A6A-C275-44DE-9BB5-D973702F8F93) [Draft Text](https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2020/2/murkowski-manchin-introduce-american-energy-innovation-act), [Sponsor Statement](https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2020/2/murkowski-manchin-introduce-american-energy-innovation-act), [Section-by-Section](https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?a=files.serve&File_id=CC266AB2-6E09-4BEE-88E2-BCFC5C87EBF6), Group Support). Votes: 60 Senators have elements in the bill, bi-partisan support. But Draft, no official sponsors yet.

**5. CLIMATE CRISIS ACTION PLAN.** U.S. House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis. [Action Plan](https://climatecrisis.house.gov/report).

6. **THE CASE FOR CLIMATE ACTION**. U.S. Senate Democrats’ Special Committee on the Climate Crisis.  [Report](https://www.schatz.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/SCCC_Climate_Crisis_Report.pdf). ([Group Support).](https://www.democrats.senate.gov/climate/supporters)

**BILL SUMMARIES**

**FARMING & LAND**

**5. FOREST CRIME-FREE SUPPLY CHAIN** (Name TBD). Materials coming.

Preliminary summary:

* Prohibit the import of agricultural commodities sourced from illegally deforested land
* Oblige companies to carry out supply chain due diligence on high risk commodities and submit details to U.S. authorities
* Establish a third party complaint mechanism for providing evidence
* Create new avenues of foreign assistance to support producer country efforts to tackle deforestation
* Strengthen tools to tackle deforestation-related financial crimes
* Establish a U.S. government procurement preference for zero deforestation products

6. JUSTICE FOR BLACK FARMERS ACT of 2020. ([Summary](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=9c5a6682c7&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1680088690775277045&th=1750dfc344cfbdf5&view=att&disp=safe&realattid=f_kg2enzph0), [Section-By-Section](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=9c5a6682c7&attid=0.2&permmsgid=msg-f:1680088690775277045&th=1750dfc344cfbdf5&view=att&disp=safe&realattid=f_kg2eo7141),

Over the past 100 years discrimination against Black farmers, in particular discrimination by the USDA in federal farm assistance and lending, has caused Black farmers to lose millions of acres of land, robbing these farmers and their families of billions of dollars of generational wealth. In 1920 there were nearly 1 million Black farmers in the United States. Today, due to this history of discrimination, it is estimated that there are less than 50,000 remaining Black farmers.

The Justice for Black Farmers Act would enact reforms within USDA to finally end discrimination within the agency, would protect the remaining Black farmers from losing their land, and would provide land grants to create a new generation of Black farmers and begin to restore the land base that has been lost by Black farmers due to discrimination.

Specifically, the Justice for Black Farmers Act will:

End Discrimination within USDA: The Act takes steps to once and for all end discrimination within USDA. The Act creates an independent civil rights oversight board to conduct reviews of any appeals of civil rights complaints filed against USDA, to investigate reports of discrimination within USDA, and to provide oversight of Farm Service Agency County Committees. In addition the Act creates an Equity Commission whose responsibilities include developing recommendations to end disparities in treatment of Black farmers. The Act also puts reforms in place within the USDA Office of Civil Rights, including placing a moratorium on foreclosures during the pendency of civil rights complaints.

Protect Remaining Black Farmers from Land Loss: The Act will increase to $50M per year the funding authorization for the USDA relending program created in the 2018 Farm Bill to resolve farmland ownership and succession, or “heirs property,” issues. The Act provides funding for pro bono assistance, including legal assistance and succession planning, to Black farmers. The Act will also create and fund a new member owned financial institution to provide financing to Black farmers, and will forgive any USDA debt of Black farmers who filed claims in the Pigford litigation.

Restore the Land Base Lost by Black Farmers: The Act creates a new Equitable Land Access Service within USDA to acquire farmland and provide land grants of up to 160 acres to existing and aspiring Black farmers. These land grants will allow hundreds of thousands of new Black farmers to return to the land in the next decade. To help ensure their success, these new Black farmers will be provided access to USDA operating loans and mortgages on favorable terms. From 1868 to 1934, the federal government through land grant programs gave away over 200 million acres of farmland, in 160 acre land grants, to over 1.5 million white families. These land grants created generational wealth for the ancestors of tens of millions of white Americans alive today. The new land grant program created by the Justice for Black Farmers Act will allow Black families to have access to a similar program with the potential to create generational wealth.

Create a Farm Conservation Corps: The Act creates a USDA program where young adults from socially disadvantaged communities will be provided with training and experience in farming. Participants in the program will be paid by USDA and will provide farmworker services at no cost to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and beginning farmers and ranchers. Black participants who gain experience through this program will have priority for land grants.

Empower HBCUs and Advocates for Black farmers: The Act provides substantial resources to 1890s and to nonprofits who serve Black farmers so that they can provide pro bono assistance in identifying land for USDA to purchase and provide as land grants, help new Black farmers get up and running, provide farmer training, and provide other assistance to Black farmers. The Act also provides new funding to HBCUs to expand their agriculture research and courses of study.

Assist All Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers: While Black farmers have suffered a unique history of discrimination, other socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers have also been harmed by discrimination. The Act increases funding for USDA technical assistance and for programs such as CSP and REAP, and gives priority for those programs as well as operating loans on favorable terms to all socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

Enact System Reforms to Help All Farmers and Ranchers: In order for existing Black farmers and the new Black farmers created by this bill to have a real chance to succeed and thrive, broader reforms to our broken food system must be enacted. The Justice for Black Farmers Act substantially reforms and strengthens the Packers and Stockyards Act in order to stop abusive practices by big multinational meatpacking companies and protect all family farmers and ranchers.

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

**#. CLIMATE EQUITY ACT**. (Not yet filed).

As the United States combats climate change and confronts the challenges of the 21st century, U.S. Senator Kamala D. Harris (D-CA) and U.S. Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY-14) are announcing the Climate Equity Act (CEA) to ensure that frontline communities have a seat at the policymaking table and that nobody gets left behind. Frontline communities are those that have experienced systemic socioeconomic disparities, environmental racism, and other forms of injustice, including low-income communities, indigenous peoples, and communities of color. As the climate crisis continues, these communities and others, including deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural communities, vulnerable elderly populations, unhoused populations, and people with disabilities—and the women, youth, and future generations belonging to these communities—will be on the frontlines of the climate crisis.

We must hold the United States government accountable for ensuring that frontline communities are at the heart of the decision-making process whenever it considers a policy, regulation, or rule with a climate or environmental nexus—which could broadly include direct policies to address the environment and climate change, but also transportation, housing, infrastructure, jobs, workforce development, and more. That is why legislation is needed to:

Hold Congress Accountable

• Require that environmental and climate-related legislation receive an equity score that will transparently estimate the impact on frontline communities.

o The equity score will be modeled after the economic scores provided by the Congressional Budget Office, will be developed in consultation with experts and leaders from frontline communities, and will be updated periodically.

Hold the Executive Branch Accountable

• Require that environmental and climate-related rules and regulations that have significant impact on frontline communities undergo an additional level of review. This review will aim to mitigate negative impacts, maximize benefits, and bring representatives from frontline communities into the regulatory review process.

• Require that environmental and climate-related federal grant-making and investment programs undergo review to ensure that frontline communities benefit.

Give Advocates a Seat at the Table

• Establish an independent Office of Climate and Environmental Justice Accountability to represent the views of frontline communities in rulemaking by bringing those communities into the rulemaking process, conduct research on issues and trends in frontline communities, measure the costs of regulations on frontlines communities, and monitor government compliance.

• Establish a new position of Senior Advisor for Climate and Environmental Justice at all relevant agencies to ensure compliance and coordination between the relevant agency and the Office of Climate and Environmental Justice Accountability.

• Ensure that representatives of frontline communities are at the table during the review of rules and regulations, providing insights and comments on how to minimize negative impacts and maximize benefits of rules and regulations on frontline communities.

**IN-DISCUSSION DOCUMENTS**

**FOSSIL FUEL MANAGEMENT**

**1. CARBON TAX: CARBON ACTION REBATE ACT. Sen Chris Coons (D-Del.), Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Cal.), and Rep. Jimmy Panetta (D-Cal.) (**[**Overview**](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4051)**,** [**Text H4051**](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4051/text?)**, Sponsor Statement,** [**Section-by-Section**](https://www.coons.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Climate%20Action%20Rebate%20Act%20Section-by-Section_.pdf)**, Group Support). Votes: H5, S1**

Official Summary: This bill imposes a carbon fee on the use, sale, or transfer of certain fossil fuels and fluorinated gases that emit greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. The fee is imposed on producers and importers of such fuels and is deposited into a Climate Action Rebate Fund established by this bill.

The bill establishes an gradual emissions reduction schedule for such fuels between 2020 and 2050 (100% reduction).

The bill requires payment of an equalization fee by fossil fuels and carbon-intensive imported goods at the border and provides for refunds of comparable exports.

The bill rebates up to 70% of net revenues from the fund to low-income individuals as a monthly dividend. Remaining revenues must be used for investment in infrastructure, energy innovation, and assistance for workers and communities to transition to a cleaner energy economy.

All carbon fee revenue must be spent in accordance with Buy American requirements and the Davis-Bacon Act (requires payment of local prevailing wage on public works projects for laborers and mechanics).

**2. ENERGY INNOVATION & CARBON DIVIDEND ACT of 2019. Materials coming. (Overview,** [**Text HR763**](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/763/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22energy+innovation+and+carbon%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=4)**, Sponsor Statement, Section-by-Section, Group Support). Votes: H81.**

**ENERGY TRANSITION**

**3. 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY, TRANSPORT, JOBS: THE CLIMATE LEADERSHIP and ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION for OUR NATION'S FUTURE ("CLEAN Future Act") (draft). Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s Subcommittee on Energy, U.S. Rep. Bobby L. Rush (D-Ill.), Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Rep. Frank Pallone Jr. (D-N.J.), Environment and Climate Change Subcommittee Chairman Rep. Paul Tonko (D-N.Y.), (Overview,** [**Text Draft**](https://energycommerce.house.gov/sites/democrats.energycommerce.house.gov/files/documents/0128%20CLEAN%20Future%20Discussion%20Draft.pdf)**,** [**Sponsor Statement**](https://rush.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/chairman-rush-committee-leaders-release-draft-clean-future-act)**,** [**Section-by-Section**](https://energycommerce.house.gov/sites/democrats.energycommerce.house.gov/files/documents/Section-by-Section%20of%20CLEAN%20Future%20Act%20.pdf)**, Group Support). Votes: Draft, no votes yet.**

Detailed description [here](https://energycommerce.house.gov/sites/democrats.energycommerce.house.gov/files/documents/CLEAN%20Future%20Act%20Memo%2001.08.20.pdf?utm_campaign=the_energy_202&utm_medium=Email&utm_source=Newsletter&wpisrc=nl_energy202&wpmm=1). It needs a shorter summary.

**4. ENERGY, TRANSPORT: AMERICAN ENERGY INNOVATION ACT (AEIA) (Draft). Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W.VA) (**[**Overview,**](https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?a=files.serve&File_id=4BC53A6A-C275-44DE-9BB5-D973702F8F93) [**Draft Text**](https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2020/2/murkowski-manchin-introduce-american-energy-innovation-act)**,** [**Sponsor Statement**](https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2020/2/murkowski-manchin-introduce-american-energy-innovation-act)**,** [**Section-by-Section, Group Support**](https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?a=files.serve&File_id=CC266AB2-6E09-4BEE-88E2-BCFC5C87EBF6)**). Votes: 60 Senators, with elements in the bill, bi-partisan support. But still a draft, so no official sponsors yet.**

The key provisions in the AEIA focus on energy efficiency; renewable energy; energy storage; carbon capture, utilization, and storage; advanced nuclear; industrial and vehicle technologies; the Department of Energy; mineral security, cyber and grid security and modernization; and workforce development.

S. 2657, the American Energy Innovation Act (AEIA), is a compilation of more than 50 energy-related measures considered and individually reported by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (ENR) last year. Developed under the leadership of Chairman Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) and Ranking Member Joe Manchin (D-West Virginia), AEIA will strengthen our domestic economy, national security, and international competitiveness while facilitating cleaner energy that protects human health and the global environment.

Policy Highlights Keeping Energy Affordable

– Our economy grows, and American families and businesses benefit, when energy prices are reasonable. While current market conditions have ushered in historically low prices for many resources, technological innovation made that possible and it is critical to plan for the future. With the world projected to use nearly 50 percent more energy by 2050, continued innovation is key to keeping energy affordable, and AEIA recognizes that both government and industry have important roles to play.

Making Energy Cleaner – AEIA will help keep energy affordable and simultaneously deliver what Americans want – cleaner energy that is better for human health and the environment. Instead of costly mandates or tax increases, AEIA takes a technology-oriented but technology-neutral approach that will boost energy efficiency and lead to the development of a wide range of low and zero-emissions energy options. This will lead to cleaner air, cleaner water, and help reduce the impacts of climate change.

Strengthening Our Security – Innovation helped America overcome its foreign oil dependence but our mineral, cyber, and grid security all remain critical threats. AEIA recognizes that a supply chain disruption or a cyberattack, particularly on the electric grid, could have devastating consequences and takes meaningful steps to protect Americans against them.

Increasing Our Competitiveness – The strength of our economy is determined by our ability to compete with nations around the world. While often taken for granted, a steady supply of energy and raw materials is fundamental to our ability to grow and prosper. AEIA will help ensure that American manufacturers can utilize domestic energy and materials for their products – and it will help ensure those resources are produced safely and responsibly by a well-trained and highly-skilled workforce.

Consensus Legislation Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Manchin will introduce AEIA as a substitute amendment to S. 2657, a shell vehicle. As introduced, AEIA contains measures sponsored or cosponsored by more than 60 Senators that are arranged into two titles. The first focuses on American leadership in the research and development of innovative energy technologies. The second aims to improve our national security in key areas and facilitate workforce development.

Efficiency – Often called the “first fuel,” energy efficiency provides significant benefits for consumers, businesses, and the environment – yet the International Energy Agency has found that the pace of efficiency improvements is slowing. AEIA will improve the efficiency of everything from schools to data centers while promoting weatherization and smart buildings. Renewables – Once fully commercialized, renewable resources will offer an unlimited supply of clean, low-cost, domestic energy. AEIA supports wind and solar technologies, extends hydropower incentives, modernizes marine energy research, and advances geothermal energy.

Energy Storage – Energy storage is key to overcoming the variability of many renewable resources and will help stabilize the electric grid. AEIA promotes promising storage technologies and facilitates pumped storage from clean hydropower. Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage – CCUS promises to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions from both coal and natural gas plants. AEIA will modernize federal CCUS R&D efforts and promote direct carbon removal to establish U.S. primacy in these key fields.

Advanced Nuclear – New nuclear technologies are smaller, scalable, and will offer clean, affordable baseload energy to communities, military installations, and other facilities. The U.S. developed nuclear energy and can regain its global leadership by pioneering advanced reactors. Industrial and Vehicle Technologies – The industrial and transportation sectors are major sources of greenhouse gas emissions. AEIA supports technological innovation in both sectors and encourages smart manufacturing that will bring good jobs back to America’s heartland.

Department of Energy – DOE is at the heart of innovation in the energy sector. AEIA brings the Department’s authorities into the 21st century, renews essential programs like ARPA-E, and provides strategic direction in groundbreaking areas like high-performance computing.

TITLE II| SECURITY AND WORKFORCE

Mineral Security – The U.S. imports at least 50 percent of 46 minerals, including 100 percent of 17 of them. This is our Achilles’ heel and an insidious threat to both our national security and international competitiveness. AEIA complements the administration’s actions and will help rebuild a strong domestic minerals supply chain for the American military and manufacturers. \

Cybersecurity and Grid Modernization – America’s critical infrastructure – including the electric grid – faces millions of ever-evolving cyberattacks each day. A successful attack could have devastating consequences, so AEIA provides new mechanisms and incentives to protect our cybersecurity and modernize the domestic grid.

Workforce Development – A well-educated workforce to fill jobs in key sectors is crucial for affordable energy and America’s status as an energy super power. AEIA addresses pressing needs for both energy-related companies and National Laboratories to ensure the U.S. has the best and most highly skilled workers in the world.

5. **CLIMATE CRISIS ACTION PLAN.** U.S. House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis. [Action Plan](https://climatecrisis.house.gov/report)

Critiques:   
[Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy](https://www.iatp.org/blog/202007/house-climate-report-sets-path-2021-it-enough?fbclid=IwAR2PWMjdOs49K2XgEn7SUprkWHVxxptrD3O8tmyQ9sx0obzu8BydIz9BuPI&utm_source=IATP+Full+List&utm_campaign=46471fb763-MARCH_NEWS_18_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3f024f9ff8-46471fb763-74949021)