

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 13, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jim Clyburn
Majority Whip
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader Hoyer, and Whip Clyburn:

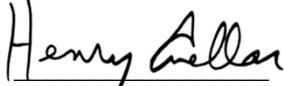
We write to you to share our concerns about proposed language in the House budget reconciliation package specifically targeting the U.S. oil, natural gas, and refining industries. Provisions in the package have the potential to cost thousands of jobs, stifle economic recovery, increase energy costs for all Americans, strengthen our adversaries, and ultimately impede the transition to a lower carbon future. These taxes and fees, as well as the exclusion of natural gas production from clean energy initiatives, constitute punitive practices.

Currently, oil and natural gas companies may recover costs, which is permissible for companies in every other industry. The industry supports nearly 11 million domestic jobs and generates billions of dollars of revenue for federal and state governments. In addition, the energy provided by this sector ensures that America minimizes reliance on foreign sources of oil and petroleum products, and that the American public has access to affordable and reliable sources of energy to power their lives and keep the American economy moving. The price of crude oil is the largest factor in gasoline prices, so raising the costs of crude oil for refineries will adversely impact Americans who can least afford it. The tax changes being proposed will further cut domestic production and endanger domestic refining capacity while increasing demand from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Global demand for oil and natural gas will continue to increase for the foreseeable future. The U.S. Energy Information Administration predicts we will need more forms of all energy in the future, projecting worldwide energy consumption to grow by 50% by 2050. U.S. production of oil and natural gas is among the most environmentally conscious in the world when it comes to carbon-intensity and curtailing methane emissions. Likewise, U.S. refining companies are making significant investments in lower carbon fuels, carbon capture, and other technologies to reduce emissions. Limiting capital for these industries will impede their ability to continue investing in the technologies needed to meet growing demand for energy while reducing emissions.

We firmly believe that the budget reconciliation bill should not unduly disadvantage any industry, and oppose the targeting of U.S. oil, natural gas, and refining with increased taxes and fees and the exclusion of natural gas production from clean energy initiatives. These inequitable policies will cost American jobs, move America farther away from energy independence, and will slow the country's move toward a lower carbon future.

Sincerely,



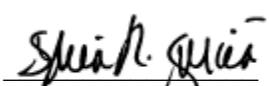
Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress



Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



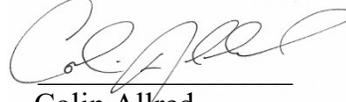
Sylvia Garcia
Member of Congress



Marc Veasey
Member of Congress



Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



Colin Allred
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Frank Pallone, Chairman, House Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Richard Neal, Chairman, House Committee on Ways and Means