

(Date of Delivery)

The Honorable Senator (Senator’s Full Name)

(Office Street Address)

(City, State Zip)

Dear Senator (Senator's Last Name):

As your constituent, I am asking you to hold strong and **support the entire "reconciliation" Build Back Better program** with only minor adjustments from how it was drafted by the committees of the House of Representatives. **We also insist that the Senate adjust the filibuster to allow voting rights legislation to pass on a majority vote, given the GOP is blocking debate on the issue.**

**The central measures of the reconciliation bill are not only tremendously popular with the American people, but they are also social and environmental necessities for a more just and equitable America in the 21st century**. For instance:

* American families need universal pre-K, affordable daycare, home and community-based care, and paid family leave.
* child tax subsidies are a lifeline for working and poor people in our far-too unequal economy.
* adding dental, vision, and hearing coverage to Medicare will improve the health, longevity, and quality of life for older America
* Americans will be positively impacted by the bill's housing provisions; just as millions more will have their lives transformed by its immigration policy
* funding for High-Speed Rail, itself a climate solution, will help transform the transportation sector, still the largest domestic source of CO2 emissions.
* climate science dictates the necessity of the bill's powerful incentives to develop zero carbon emission renewable energy.

All of these excellent and essential measures, plus many more, are in the complete bill drafted by the House. To remove any of these will be devastating to countless Americans; and nothing feels worse than a promise rescinded.

The single most popular measure in the bill is the provision to allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices. Studies show this will bring the cost of pharmaceutical drugs into line with the rest of the world. Currently, Americans pay two-and-a-half times as much as any other country, which is estimated to cause tens of thousands of unnecessary deaths each year. Clearly, a robust program allowing Medicare to negotiate lower prices is a human necessity. It will also save the Federal government hundreds of billions of dollars over the next decade - money that can fund the other programs in this bill and lower the need to raise taxes.

One measure that must be added to the bill - as advocated for by Senator Ron Wyden, head of the Finance Committee - is the repeal of domestic fossil fuel subsidies. Simply put, America cannot claim a role of international leadership in combating the climate emergency at next month's COP26 global conference if the government continues to pay for the development and production of the primary cause of global warming, fossil fuels. These ancient subsidies, some dating back over 100 years, must be repealed - and, like Medicare drug price negotiations, their repeal will save the government tens of billions of dollars, helping fund the rest of the bill.

**Passage of the complete Build Back Better program, plus the protection of voting rights, will prove to America and the world, as we emerge from the tragedy of the COVID-19 pandemic, that a more fair, equitable, and environmentally conscious world is possible**; that We the People, and the not the corporate lobbyists, are sovereign; and that the conscientious hard-working politicians of the Democratic Party can deliver for the people.

your constituent,

(your name)

(your address)

(your e-mail)

(your phone number – optional)

(Or, if you'd rather not be contacted, sign your name and ID yourself and say “Contact Mike Fox, Deputy Executive Director, Progressive Democrats of America, mikefox@pdamerica.org”)