



May 2, 2022

United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: LCV Opposes Anti-Environment Motions to Instruct on USICA/America COMPETES Act (H.R. 4521)**

Dear Senator,

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) believes that everyone has a right to clean air, clean water, public lands, and a safe climate protected by a just and equitable democracy. Each year, LCV publishes the *National Environmental Scorecard*, which details the voting records of members of Congress on environmental legislation. The *Scorecard* is distributed to LCV members, concerned voters nationwide, and the media.

The Senate is expected to vote on several motions to instruct (MTI) conferees on USICA/America COMPETES Act (H.R. 4521). **We strongly urge you to oppose the following MTIs:**

**Barrasso MTI on more dirty and dangerous offshore drilling.** The Barrasso MTI intends to force the Biden Administration to immediately develop a five-year offshore oil and gas leasing plan that includes a minimum of ten region-wide oil and gas lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska regions. This unconstructive MTI is not only contradictory to our necessity to act on climate change, but also circumvents the careful and participatory statutory process in developing the five-year plan. These new leases would not address the pain everyday Americans are feeling at the pump or the current record profiteering of Big Oil. The oil and gas industry has already stockpiled millions of acres of unused leases, and new leases that are used would not start producing for years or decades. Offshore drilling harms coastal economies and communities, wildlife, and our climate. Instead of opening new areas for leasing, we should make investments to prevent future oil spill disasters, act on climate at the scale that science and justice require, create good-paying jobs, and reduce costs for families. **For all these reasons, LCV strongly urges you to reject the Barrasso MTI.**

**Lee, Cotton, Daines, Capito, and Scott MTIs inhibiting climate action.** In addition to this Barrasso MTI, we urge you to oppose any MTIs that undermine our ability to tackle climate change at home or abroad. The Lee, Cotton, and Daines MTIs all seek to eliminate the gains made in the House bill on the international stage, including contributions to the Green Climate Fund, implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement, and any funding or actions to address climate change mitigation and adaptation at the international level. The Lee, Daines, along with the Capito and Scott MTIs, further seek to reduce our ability to meet our own domestic climate goals by undermining our whole-of-government approach to tackling the climate crisis, our efforts to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, and our ability to respond appropriately to the climate crisis. As the recent IPCC reports made clear, we cannot afford to wait any longer to act on climate – the costs of inaction are staggering and rising, and though the impacts will be devastating and universal, it is the countries and communities who have contributed the fewest emissions who will bear the worst impacts and losses. We cannot solve the climate crisis alone -



as the wealthiest nation in the world and one of the largest historical emitters of climate pollution, the United States has an obligation to swiftly advance our own clean energy transition through all the tools at our disposal, and to contribute our fair share to support less developed countries in meeting our shared climate goals. **Therefore, LCV strongly urges you to reject the Lee, Cotton, Daines, Capito, and Scott MTIs.**

LCV will strongly consider including the votes on the above MTIs in the 2022 *Scorecard*. If you would like more information, please reach out to a member of our government relations team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gene Karpinski". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Gene Karpinski  
President