



April 23, 2023

Senator Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Alex Padilla
United States Senate
The Capitol
Washington, DC 205

RE: Vote NO on H.R.1

Dear Senators,

I am writing to urge you to oppose HR 1, the so-called “Lower Energy Costs Act.” This legislation is a sweeping attack on this country’s environmental laws and an unequivocal rejection of every principle of environmental justice.

As your constituent, it’s incredibly important that my neighbors and I have a say in what is built in our backyards. HR 1 includes attacks on the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), effectively whittling away tools for community members to protect our interests and health from unscrupulous development projects. This especially exposes many frontline communities — who are already disproportionately suffering from the effects of industrial expansion and existing fossil fuel infrastructure — to dangerous pollution and climate impacts.

This legislation will also get rid of several programs passed in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) aimed at combatting the climate crisis, lowering energy costs, creating healthier communities, and advancing environmental justice. As we’ve just heard once again from the world’s top climate scientists at the United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), we must act now to prevent the worst effects of the climate crisis. This is the time to cut global warming pollution and speed up the transition to a clean energy economy, and the IRA presents us with the best opportunity we’ve seen to make this happen.

HR 1 would require the Secretary of the Interior to hold a minimum of four oil and gas lease sales in certain states each year. In addition to ravaging the climate and endangering communities living in the pathway of related fossil fuel infrastructure, public lands that are given to the fossil fuel industry become nearly worthless for wildlife and otherwise simply become an industrial development zone.

The bill doesn’t stop there. Among other things, HR 1 expresses Congress’ opposition to enacting restrictions on oil and gas exports.

It’s clear: at a time when the fossil fuel industry is experiencing record profits and expansion, HR 1 seeks to lock in the worst and most egregious fossil fuel extraction activities for decades to come, while shutting down our clean energy boom here at home. For the sake of the health and safety of communities in your district and a livable planet for all, I demand that you oppose HR 1 in its entirety.

Sincerely,

(Print Name) _____

Address _____
