

August 2, 2022

The Honorable Gary Peters
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jack Reed
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rob Portman
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable James Inhofe
Ranking Member
Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Peters, Chairman Reed, Ranking Member Portman, and Ranking Member Inhofe:

Re: Support for S. 3531, the National Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategy Act

The undersigned organizations strongly support S. 3531, the National Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategy Act.

In the last 20 years, natural disasters have caused more than \$1.5 trillion in damage and economic losses across the United States. Increasing disaster costs and impacts pose a growing threat to American lives, livelihoods, infrastructure, supply chains, and military readiness. These issues must be met with whole-of-government approaches to proactively reduce risk and eliminate the siloed tendency of federal resilience programs that are contributing to ongoing project and planning challenges faced by state and local partners.

The National Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategy Act would augment federal resilience initiatives to strengthen national security and ensure that small businesses, disadvantaged communities, other localities, states, and regions have the necessary tools and coordinated funding, guidance, and support to prepare before disasters strike. The effectiveness of federal efforts would be improved by establishing a chief resilience officer within the White House that works with the interagency community and nonfederal entities to identify barriers to building smart, modern, resilient infrastructure, and opportunities to address them. Further, communities would be better able to withstand future climate threats through the development of a national strategy to improve intergovernmental coordination, incentivize funding for predisaster mitigation and resilience planning, enhance technical assistance and capacity building, and leverage nature-based solutions.

We urge Congress to take up and pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

American Council of Engineering Companies

American Flood Coalition Action

American Planning Association

American Property Casualty Insurance Association

American Public Works Association

American Society of Adaptation Professionals

American Society of Civil Engineers

American Society of Landscape Architects

ARUP

BuildStrong Coalition

Center for Climate and Energy Solutions

City Parks Alliance

Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers

Ecological Restoration Business Association

Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.

Federal Association for Insurance Reform

Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety

Interstate Council on Water Policy

Land Trust Alliance

League of Women Voters

LOCUS: Responsible Real Estate Developers & Investors

Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative

National Association of Clean Water Agencies

National Association of Counties

National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies

National Institute of Building Sciences

National League of Cities

National Recreation and Park Association

National Wildlife Federation

Natural Resources Defense Council

R Street Institute

Reinsurance Association of America

Resilience 21 Coalition

Resilience Hub and Collaboratory Network

Resilient Cities Network

SBP

Smart Growth America

Smart Home America

SmarterSafer

Taxpayers for Common Sense

The Nature Conservancy

The Pew Charitable Trusts

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Transportation for America

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Union of Concerned Scientists

cc: Members of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

cc: Members of the Senate Committee on Armed Services