



The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives
1236 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

September 27, 2021

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McCarthy, and Minority Leader McConnell:

I write as the President of [Second Nature](#) – an NGO focused on accelerating climate action in, and through, higher education – to urge you to swiftly pass the Build Back Better Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Package.

We are leaders of the **oldest and broadest network of higher education leaders assembled in support of climate action** in the United States. Our [Climate Leadership Network](#) includes more than 450 colleges and universities across the U.S. who are committed to eliminating carbon emissions from their operations, and mobilizing their institutional resources to combat climate change beyond their campuses. Our signatories include higher education presidents and chancellors who recognize higher education's vital role in helping the U.S. meet emission-reduction targets at the speed and scale necessary to solve the climate crisis.

The bipartisan infrastructure deal and reconciliation bill offers our nation a once-in-a-decade opportunity to enact critical federal climate policy to put our country on a path to cut emissions in half by 2030 and strengthen our economy. In particular, we want to note our support for:

- Clean Energy Payment Program, which will achieve 80% clean electricity by 2030 and 100% clean electricity by 2035
- A first-of-its-kind methane fee and capping program
- The establishment of a Civilian Climate Corps, which will employ thousands of young people to address the threat of climate change
- Significant investments in public transit
- Clean building and vehicle incentives, which will promote efficiency and electrification

Higher education leaders recognize that urgency to act has never been greater. The time to act is now.

Thank you,



Tim Carter, President
Second Nature