



October 8, 2021

TO: Climate Action Campaign & Environment America
FROM: Nancy Zdunkewicz, [Change Research](#)
RE: GA-7 voters support climate action in Build Back Better plan

Voters in Georgia's 7th congressional district support a bold reconciliation package that includes action and investments to address climate change and help the environment. This is according to a new survey of 437 voters in GA-7 conducted by Change Research on behalf of Environment America and Climate Action Campaign.¹

Voters support reconciliation package & its climate elements

By a 10-point margin (54% support, 44% oppose) voters support the Build Back Better plan to invest up to \$3.5 trillion to create jobs, address climate change and clean energy, health care costs, child care, paid leave, and Pre-K, paid for by raising taxes on large corporations and people making over \$400,000 a year. Democrats universally support the proposal as do 65% of independents and even 14% of Republicans. Voters also support the bipartisan infrastructure deal (61% support, 34% oppose) with a vast majority of independents (62% to 20%) again in favor of it.

Support for Build Back Better Investment Plan

President Biden and Democrats have proposed legislation to invest up to \$3.5 trillion to create jobs and address climate change and clean energy, health care costs, child care, paid leave, and pre-K, paid for by raising taxes on large corporations and people making more than \$400,000 a year. Do you support or oppose this proposed legislation?

● Total support ● Not sure ● Total oppose



Many of the individual elements to address climate change included in the proposed Build Back Better plan are even more popular than the overall package. For instance, 72% of voters support measures that will make polluters bear the cost of their activities such as reinstating 'polluter pay'

¹ Change Research surveyed 437 registered voters in GA-7 online from September 22-26, 2021. Respondents were recruited into an online survey instrument via Dynamic Online Sampling and via SMS from a voter-file. Post-stratification was done on gender, age, ethnicity, education, and past vote history.

laws and setting a fee on companies that emit methane. Plans to accelerate the adoption of renewable energy are supported by 64% of voters and 59% support provisions to reduce air pollution. At least 75% of independents polled supported each of these provisions.

Support for BBB climate provisions

These are some of the proposals that have been suggested for inclusion in this new legislation. Do you support or oppose each of the following proposals?

● Total support ● Not sure ● Total oppose

Reinstate 'polluters pay' laws to require corporate polluters to fund the clean up of their industry's toxic pollution and set a fee on oil and gas companies that emit methane.



Accelerate the adoption of renewable energy sources such as wind and solar power by making new renewable energy tax incentives available to individuals and businesses and creating a program for electric companies to transition to clean energy sources.



Reduce air pollution from heavy duty vehicles, at ports and from diesel engines through grant programs to replace polluting vehicles, support manufacturing of zero-emission technologies, and by funding implementation of Clean Air Act provisions.



Support the transition from gasoline powered vehicles to clean electric vehicles by providing rebates for people purchasing electric vehicles, and making those vehicles easier to recharge by building a network of electric vehicle charging stations.



The proposed changes to tax policy to pay for these and other investments are also incredibly popular. The most popular proposal is one to require corporations to pay a minimum tax of 15% with 66% of voters in support. Majorities also support plans to eliminate tax credits and subsidies for fossil fuel companies (61% support), to raise taxes on those making more than \$400K a year (57% support), and to increase the corporate tax rate to 26.5% (56% support).

Support for Higher Taxes on Rich, Polluters & Corps

These are some tax proposals that the U.S Congress may consider. Would you support or oppose each of the following proposals?

● Total support ● Not sure ● Total oppose

Require any corporations using loopholes to minimize their taxes to pay a minimum tax of 15% on their profits.



Eliminate more than \$20 billion annually in tax credits and subsidies for fossil fuel companies.



Raise taxes on people with incomes of more than \$400,000 a year.



Increase the corporate tax rate from 21% to 26.5%. Until 2018, the corporate tax rate was 35%.



Each of these proposals is supported by over 90% of Democrats, at least 69% of independents, and over 60% of reconciliation persuadables.²

Climate change a crucial priority for Democratic voters and persuasion audiences

A 61% majority of voters in GA-7 say that it is very or somewhat important for Congress to address climate change by reducing carbon pollution and promoting an economy powered by clean energy sources, including 99% of Biden voters, 72% of voters who are persuadable on the reconciliation package, and even 20% of those who voted for Trump in 2020. Climate change is also the second most important issue facing the country for Biden voters behind COVID-19 (41% ranked climate a top two issue, 47% prioritize COVID-19).

Reasons to support climate action

These are some reasons why people support taking more action on climate change. How convincing are each of these reasons?

● Very convincing ● Somewhat convincing

Carbon pollution and climate change create increased health risks by contributing to greater rates of asthma, heart disease, and cancer, and threatening our access to food and clean drinking water.



By reducing carbon pollution today, we can protect our health and environment now and for future generations.



Investing in renewable energy and a clean energy infrastructure will create thousands of good paying jobs that will provide energy independence, can't be exported and will grow our economy.



Climate change is contributing to more frequent catastrophic storms, fires, and rising sea levels which destroy property, cost our economy billions, and threaten American lives.



Climate change is a moral and spiritual issue; we have a duty of stewardship to God's creation and people to protect them from irreversible harm.



Voters want Congress to address climate change because carbon pollution and climate change create increased health risks (64% convincing), because action today will protect our health and environment now and for future generations (61% convincing), and because it will create good American jobs (62% convincing). An argument that climate change is producing more frequent severe weather which threatens property, lives, and the economy was slightly less convincing

² Reconciliation persuadables are the 23% of voters surveyed who hold weak opinions (somewhat support, somewhat oppose) or who remain undecided on the proposed Build Back Better investment plan.

overall but generates the most intense reactions: 45% of voters and 84% of Democrats found this argument for addressing climate change very convincing.