SUMMARY: As Congress considers “its biggest climate change bill ever”—the $3.5 trillion budget reconciliation package—a "torrent of political groups" representing the nation's biggest industries prepared a "lobbying blitz" against the budget's proposals, undermining the nation's best shot at reaching 100% clean energy sources by 2035 and combating the "existential threat" of climate change.

And major corporations that claim to act on climate change and sustainability are members of trade associations that are actively working to block the Build Back Better Plan all while donating to Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, who refuses to commit support to Biden’s climate plan. These companies include:

- **AbbVie** is a part of both the Business Roundtable and PhRMA, which have been campaigning against the Build Back Better Plan. The company also donated $2,500 to Senator Sinema in Q3 of 2021. This all comes as AbbVie has talked openly about their “ambitious, long-term environmental, and sustainability targets for absolute reductions to carbon emissions, water and waste generation, striving for zero waste to landfill at our sites.”

- **Astellas** is a part of PhRMA, which has been campaigning against the Build Back Better Plan, which is fighting against the Build Back Better Plan. The company also donated $3,000 to Senator Sinema In Q3 Of 2021. This all comes as Astellas set out to reach the 2 degrees Celsius target of The Paris Climate Agreement.

- **AT&T** is a part of The RATE Coalition, the U.S. Chamber Of Commerce, and the Business Roundtable, which are all fighting against the Build Back Better Plan. The company also donated $2,000 to Senator Sinema in Q3 of 2021. This comes after AT&T claimed it is dedicated to “environmental stewardship.”

- **Amazon** is a part of the CEO is a member of The Business Roundtable and the company is a member of the U.S. Chamber Of Commerce, which are both fighting against the Build Back Better Plan. The company also donated $5,000 to Senator Sinema in Q3 of 2021. This comes as Amazon pledged a commitment to net-zero carbon emissions by 2040.

Major corporations need to decide if the future of the planet or the priorities of their trade groups are more important.
President Biden's "Ambitious" Climate Change Plan Could Be Enacted If Congress Passes The "$3.5 Trillion Budget Package," Which Would Advance His Broader "Build Back Better" Agenda For Economic Fairness. “President Biden's ambitious climate change plan could soon become a reality if Democrats in Congress succeed in passing a $3.5 trillion budget package. But first Democrats, who are crafting the legislation without Republican support, must overcome powerful opposition, some of it within their own party.” [NPR, 09/15/21]

- The $3.5 Trillion Budget Is Part Of President Biden's "Build Back Better" Agenda, Which Is Intended To "Create Jobs, Cut Taxes, And Lower Costs For Working Families" While Making Corporations And The Wealthy "Pay Their Fair Share" In Taxes. “The Build Back Better Agenda includes President Biden's American Families Plan and key elements of the American Jobs Plan that were not included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal. In Washington, this proposal is known as 'reconciliation.' But the bottom line is a plan that will create jobs, cut taxes, and lower costs for working families—all paid for by making the tax code fairer and making the wealthiest and large corporations pay their fair share.” [The White House, 08/13/21]

The Budget Reconciliation Bill “Would Bring Extraordinary Changes To The Country’s Energy Sector” And “Lead To Huge Reductions In The Climate-Warming Greenhouse Gases The U.S. Emits.” “This legislation would bring extraordinary changes to the country's energy sector. It would lead to huge reductions in the climate-warming greenhouse gases the U.S. emits and change the kind of car many Americans drive.” [NPR, 09/15/21]


According To Experts, The Reconciliation Bill Would Help Put The U.S. On Track To Reach Critical Clean Energy Goals And Aid In Staving Off Some Of The Dangerous Effects Of Climate Change.

Natural Resources Defense Council Senior Advocate Sam Krasnow Said The Reconciliation Bill Would “‘Get Us To 80% Clean [Energy Sources] By 2030, On The Path To A [sic] 100% Clean By 2035.’” “Environmentalists, though, feel optimistic about how the energy and climate provisions of the budget legislation are coming together, with not just the electricity plan but also tens of billions of dollars in proposed tax credits for cleaner energy sources. ‘It'll get us to 80% clean by 2030, on the path to a [sic] 100% clean by 2035,’ said Sam Krasnow, senior advocate at the Natural Resources Defense Council.” [NPR, 09/15/21]

Analysis Of The Bill Found That It Would Help “Put The US On Track To Reduce Its Greenhouse Gas Emissions By Approximately 45% Below 2005 Levels By 2030” Which Is Viewed “As A Critical Step For The US To Get To Net-Zero Emissions By 2050, A Target Scientist[s] Warn The World’s Largest Carbon Emitters Must Hit To Limit Global Warming To 1.5 Degrees Celsius.” “In a letter sent Wednesday to congressional Democrats, Schumer said new analysis shows the combined impact of both bills would put the US on track to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 45% below 2005 levels by 2030. When you add Administrative actions being planned by the Biden Administration and many states -- like New York, California, and Hawaii -- we will hit our 50% target by 2030,’ Schumer wrote in the letter. The 50% target Schumer is referring to the new target to cut greenhouse gas emissions that Biden laid out at his virtual Earth Day summit earlier this year. During the summit, Biden vowed the United States would slash its emissions by 50 to 52% relative to 2005 levels by 2030. Many experts view Biden's 2030 goal as a critical step for the US to get to net-zero emissions by 2050, a target scientist warn the world’s largest carbon emitters must hit to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. […] CNN has not yet been able to independently verify the figures in Schumer's letter, but Leon Clarke, the research director at the University of Maryland's Center for Global Sustainability, told CNN that it generally aligns with outside analysis.” [CNN, 08/25/21]

Bernie Sanders Op-Ed: “The Good News Is That The $3.5tn Budget Resolution That Was Recently Passed In The Senate Lays The Groundwork For A Historic Reconciliation Bill That Will [...] In An Unprecedented Way, Address The Existential Threat Of Climate Change.” “The good news is that the $3.5tn budget resolution that was recently passed in the Senate lays the groundwork for a historic reconciliation bill that will not only substantially improve the lives of working people, elderly people, the sick and the poor, but also, in an unprecedented way, address the existential threat of climate change. More than any other legislation in American history it will transform our energy system away from fossil fuels and into energy efficiency and sustainable energy. This legislation will be a long-overdue step forward in the fight for economic, racial, social and environmental justice. It will also create millions of well-paying jobs. As chair of the Senate budget committee my hope is that the various committees will soon finish their work and that the bill will be on the floor and adopted by Congress in late September. [The Guardian, 08/18/21]

HEADLINE: “The Planet Is In Peril. We’re Building Congress’s Strongest-Ever Climate Bill.” [The Guardian, 08/18/21]

"A Torrent Of Political Groups" Representing The Biggest Corporations Prepared A "Lobbying Blitz" Against The Package.

Late August 2021: "A Torrent Of Political Groups" Representing The Biggest Corporations In Several Industries Were Preparing A "Lobbying Blitz" Against President Biden's $3.5 Trillion "Build Back Better" Agenda. "A torrent of political groups representing some of the country’s most influential corporations — including ExxonMobil, Pfizer and the Walt Disney Company — are laying the groundwork for a lobbying blitz to stop Congress from enacting significant swaths of President Biden's $3.5 trillion economic agenda. The emerging opposition appears to be vast, spanning drug manufacturers, big banks, tech titans, major retailers and oil-and-gas giants." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

- Biden's "Build Back Better" Agenda Is Intended To "Create Jobs, Cut Taxes, And Lower Costs For Working Families" While Making Corporations And The Wealthy "Pay Their Fair Share" In Taxes. "The Build Back Better Agenda includes President Biden's American Families Plan and key elements of the American Jobs Plan that were not included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal. In Washington, this proposal is known as 'reconciliation.' But the bottom line is a plan that will create jobs, cut taxes, and lower costs for working families—all paid for by making the tax code fairer and making the wealthiest and large corporations pay their fair share.” [The White House, 08/13/21]

Major Corporations Claiming To Take Action On Climate Change And Sustainability Are Members Of Trade Associations That Are Actively Working To Block The Build Back Better Plan.

AbbVie Talked Openly About Their Climate Action Goals While Its Top Executives Were Affiliated With The Both Business Roundtable And PhRMA, Which Are Fighting Against The Build Back Better Plan.

AbbVie: “We Recognize The Environmental Risks Associated With Operating A Global Business—So We have Set Ambitious, Long-Term Environmental Sustainability Targets For Absolute Reductions To Carbon Emissions, Water And Waste Generation, Striving For Zero Waste To Landfill At Our Sites, All While Driving Increases In Renewable Electricity And Fleet Sustainability.” “At AbbVie, we know that caring for people and patients means caring for the place we all call home. Protecting the environment is part of our commitment as scientific stewards. We recognize the environmental risks associated with operating a global business—so we have set ambitious, long-term environmental sustainability targets for absolute
reductions to carbon emissions, water and waste generation, striving for zero waste to landfill at our sites, all while driving increases in renewable electricity and fleet sustainability.” [AbbVie, accessed 9/17/21]

The Business Roundtable Called Build Back Better “Troubling” As It Prepared “A Significant, Multifaceted Campaign” Against Tax Provisions In The Plan As AbbVie’s Chairman Of The Board And CEO Was A Member Of The Business Roundtable.

AbbVie’s CEO And Chairman of The Board Richard A. Gonzalez Is A Member Of The Business Roundtable. According to their membership list, Richard Gonzalez, the CEO and Chairman of the Board of Abbvie, is a member of the Business Roundtable. [Business RoundTable, members, accessed 9/17/21]

Richard A. Gonzalez
AbbVie
Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer

[Business Roundtable, members, accessed 9/17/21]

AbbVie: “We Recognize The Environmental Risks Associated With Operating A Global Business—So We have Set Ambitious, Long-Term Environmental Sustainability Targets For Absolute Reductions To Carbon Emissions, Water And Waste Generation, Striving For Zero Waste To Landfill At Our Sites, All While Driving Increases In Renewable Electricity And Fleet Sustainability.” “At AbbVie, we know that caring for people and patients means caring for the place we all call home. Protecting the environment is part of our commitment as scientific stewards. We recognize the environmental risks associated with operating a global business—so we have set ambitious, long-term environmental sustainability targets for absolute reductions to carbon emissions, water and waste generation, striving for zero waste to landfill at our sites, all while driving increases in renewable electricity and fleet sustainability.” [AbbVie, accessed 9/17/21]

PhRMA Opposes Build Back Better And Ran Ads Against The Package As AbbVie’s Executive Vice President Served On The Trade Group’s Board.

AbbVie’s Executive Vice President Jeffery Stewart Is On The Board Of PhRMA. [PhRMA, members, accessed 10/15/21]

The Pharmaceutical Industry's "Top Trade Group" PhRMA Has Run Ads Against The Package, Claiming It Would Have Worsened The Pandemic. “And the pharmaceutical industry has embarked on its own wide-ranging campaign to combat Democrats' drug pricing proposals, another potential revenue source in the bill. Conservative outfits previously backed by the sector's top trade group, known as PhRMA, have run recent ads claiming lawmakers' plans would have worsened the coronavirus pandemic.” [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

- A PhRMA Spokesperson Said The Group Opposed Democrats' Drug Pricing Reforms, Suggesting They Were "'Empty Promises That Will Do More Harm Than Good.'" “Brian Newell, a spokesman for PhRMA, stressed that the group supports general pricing reforms — just not the ideas Democrats are pursuing. 'The industry is willing to come to the table and do its fair share to help deliver real relief to patients at the pharmacy, not empty promises that will do more harm than good,' he said in a statement.” [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]
PhRMA Member Astellas Pharma Set Out To Reach The 2 Degrees Celsius Target Of The Paris Climate Agreement While PhRMA Ran Ads Against The Build Back Better Plan And Spent More Than $15 Million On Lobbying This Year.

Astellas Set Out To Reach The 2 Degrees Celsius Target Of The Paris Climate Agreement. "Mitigating and adapting to the threat posed by climate change requires active involvement by national governments, local governments, corporations, citizens, and others. Astellas recognizes that climate change will become a constraint on conducting sustained corporate activity, and considers it one of management's most important problems to address. Astellas has adopted the method for setting reduction targets recommended by the Science Based Targets (SBT) Initiative. This method is designed to achieve the 2°C target of the Paris Agreement, which entered force in 2016. In November 2018, the SBT Initiative certified the targets laid out in Astellas’ Environmental Action Plan. In the review of risks and opportunities that the SBT target setting process and climate change will present to businesses, we have adopted the 2°C Scenario of the International Energy Agency (IEA 2DS). Guided by IEA 2DS, we will promote measures from a medium- to long-term perspective." [Astellas, Climate Change Measures, accessed 9/20/21]

PhRMA Opposes Build Back Better And Ran Ads Against The Package As Astellas Pharma Retains Membership To The Group.

Astellas Pharma Retained Membership To PhRMA. According to their membership page, Astellas is a member of PhRMA. [PhRMA, members, accessed 9/20/21]

The Pharmaceutical Industry's "Top Trade Group" PhRMA Has Run Ads Against The Package, Claiming It Would Have Worsened The Pandemic. "And the pharmaceutical industry has embarked on its own wide-ranging campaign to combat Democrats' drug pricing proposals, another potential revenue source in the bill. Conservative outfits previously backed by the sector's top trade group, known as PhRMA, have run recent ads claiming lawmakers' plans would have worsened the coronavirus pandemic." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]
• A PhRMA Spokesperson Said The Group Opposed Democrats' Drug Pricing Reforms, Suggesting They Were "Empty Promises That Will Do More Harm Than Good." "Brian Newell, a spokesman for PhRMA, stressed that the group supports general pricing reforms — just not the ideas Democrats are pursuing. 'The industry is willing to come to the table and do its fair share to help deliver real relief to patients at the pharmacy, not empty promises that will do more harm than good,' he said in a statement." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

• PhRMA Has Spent More Than $15 Million On Lobbying This Year. "To raise its voice, PhRMA has poured more than $15 million into lobbying Washington this year, its federal disclosures show." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

**AT&T Has Claimed It Is Dedicated To “Environmental Stewardship,” Yet It’s Affiliated With The RATE Coalition, The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce, And The Business Roundtable, Which Are All Fighting Against The Build Back Better Plan.**

AT&T Has A Web Page Dedicated To "Environmental Stewardship," In Which It Claims, "We Can Play A Role In Creating A Better, More Environmentally Sustainable Future."

![Environmental Stewardship](image)

[AT&T, accessed 09/17/21]

AT&T States, "Climate Change Is One Of The World's Most Pressing Challenges And Poses Significant Risks To Companies." [AT&T, accessed 09/17/21]

In Its Climate Strategy And Transition Plan, AT&T Notes The Biden Administration's "Aggressive Agenda To Address Climate Change," While Acknowledging That "Society Must Transition To A Net-Zero Economy By 2050 Or Sooner." "Science tells us that society must transition to a net-zero economy by 2050 or sooner, and many countries around the world have started to make that transition. In the United States, the Biden Administration has begun executing an aggressive agenda to address climate change, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 50% below 2005 levels by 2030, achieve net-zero emissions from the grid by 2035 and reach economy-wide net-zero emissions by 2050 or sooner. Achieving these goals — in the U.S. and around the world — will require large-scale public- and private-sector investments in technology and infrastructure to reshape the way we live and work. While sharply cutting emissions, society must also build resilience to the impacts that are already unfolding. How companies navigate these changes will be a factor in their success in the 21st century." [AT&T, accessed 09/17/21]

• AT&T Has Rolled Out A “Climate Strategy & Transition Plan.” [AT&T, accessed 09/17/21]

The RATE Coalition Has Been Preparing A "Seven-Figure" Ad Campaign Against Build Back Better As AT&T Is A Member Of The Trade Group.

AT&T Is A Member Of The RATE Coalition. [The RATE Coalition, accessed 09/17/21]
The RATE Coalition, Which Represents Capital One, Disney, FedEx, Lowe's and Lockheed Martin, Has Been Preparing A "Seven-Figure" Ad Campaign Against The Reconciliation Package. "Other corporate interests are training their sights on Democrats’ plans to pay for the bill through tax increases on businesses. Biden has proposed to raise the corporate rate to 28 percent from 21 percent, along with a slew of additional changes targeting profits earned overseas. The move has spawned outrage from companies that had spent significant sums four years ago to secure more favorable tax rules under President Donald Trump. The list of opponents includes the RATE Coalition, which counts support from Capital One, Disney, FedEx, Lowe’s and Lockheed Martin. Over the next few months, the group is preparing a seven-figure digital advertising campaign to oppose Democrats’ plans and highlight businesses that might be hurt in the process, according to a person with knowledge of the effort, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe the planning." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

RATE Coalition's "Chief Adviser," Former Sen. Blanche Lincoln (D-AR), Claimed "Any" Corporate Tax Increase Would "'Carry Devastating Consequences For American Workers.'" "Any increase in the rate would position our country even further behind global competitors like China — and carry devastating consequences for American workers,' said former senator Blanche Lincoln, a Democrat who serves as the group’s chief adviser." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

The Senior Executive Vice President Of External And Legislative Affairs At AT&T Serves On The Board Of The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce, Which Was Assembling A Coalition-Wide Fight Against The Build Back Better Plan.

The U.S. Chamber's Board Of Directors Includes AT&T's Senior Executive Vice President Of External And Legislative Affairs Ed Gillespie. [U.S. Chamber of Commerce, accessed 10/15/21]

According To Its Most Recent Trade Association Disclosure In 2020, AT&T Was A Member Of The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce. [AT&T Trade Association Disclosure, 2020]

Late August 2021: The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Was Assembling "An Economy-Wide Coalition To Coordinate The Fight" Against The Reconciliation Bill, Which Would Include Lobbying, And Ad Campaigns Against Democratic Lawmakers. "Among the most active is the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which is starting to put together an economy-wide coalition to coordinate the fight against the still forming economic package, including its significant price tag, policy scope and potential for tax increases. The effort could encompass traditional lobbying on Capitol Hill as well as advertising campaigns targeting Democratic lawmakers, according to three people familiar with the matter who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe the discussions." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

The Chamber Vowed To Do "'Everything We Can'" To Block The Full Reconciliation Package, Which Its President And CEO Claimed It Would "'Halt America's Fragile Economic Recovery.'" "In a sign of the obstacles Democrats face, the Chamber of Commerce last week took a firm stand against the package, promising to do 'everything we can' to prevent Congress from adopting it in full. The group’s president and chief executive, Suzanne Clark, issued the statement hours after the House adopted the $3.5 trillion budget that enabled Democrats to begin crafting tax and spending provisions — an approach, she said, that would 'halt America's fragile economic recovery.'" [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Is "The World's Largest Business Organization." "The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business organization representing companies of all sizes across every sector of the economy." [U.S. Chamber of Commerce, accessed 09/10/21]


AT&T's CEO John Stankey Is A Member Of The Business Roundtable. John Stankey AT&T's CEO is a member of the Business Roundtable. [Business RoundTable, members, accessed 10/15/21]
The Business Roundtable—Which Represents Large Corporate Executives, Including The CEOs Walmart And Apple—Is Preparing To Fight The Package’s Corporate Tax Increases. "Other opponents include the Business Roundtable, whose board counts the chief executives from Apple and Walmart. The group similarly is preparing to fight corporate tax increases, which Democrats hope will fund their vast new spending." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

- The Business Roundtable’s Spokesperson Said It Was Preparing "'A Significant, Multifaceted Campaign’ Against The Tax Increases. "Jessica Boulanger, a spokeswoman for the Business Roundtable, said in a statement it is engaged in 'a significant, multifaceted campaign' to stop tax hikes and would 'continue to ramp up our efforts in the coming weeks.'" [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

August 2021: The Business Roundtable President And CEO Joshua Bolten Called The $3.5 Trillion Budget Resolution "'Troubling'" As He Claimed It Would "'Dramatically'" Increase Inflation And Undermine The Pandemic Recovery. "Business Roundtable President & CEO Joshua Bolten today issued the following statement on the Senate budget resolution: [...] ‘But a $3.5 trillion budget resolution on top of this extraordinary spending is troubling. If the massive new spending contemplated in the proposed budget resolution were to materialize, inflation risks would increase dramatically, undermining recovery. In the longer term, a permanent $3.5 trillion increase in federal spending – and corresponding tax increases on American businesses – would impose a substantial debt burden on all Americans or dramatically undermine the competitiveness of the U.S. economy, and more likely do both.’" [The Business Roundtable, 08/10/21]

Bolten Claimed The Tax Increases In The $3.5 Trillion Package Would "'Counteract'" The Bipartisan Infrastructure Package's Benefits. "'Today's passage of a comprehensive infrastructure bill was a significant achievement made possible by bipartisan cooperation and compromise. As the Senate considers the budget resolution, Business Roundtable is deeply concerned about potential tax increases on U.S. job creators that would counteract the benefits of infrastructure investment. America needs prudent economic policies that boost, not undermine, the recovery, new job creation and long-term U.S. economic growth.''' [The Business Roundtable, 08/10/21]

Amazon’s Climate Pledge Was A Commitment To Produce Net-Zero Carbon Emissions By 2040, Yet The CEO Is A Member Of The Business Roundtable And The Company Is A Member Of The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce, Which Are Both Fighting Against The Build Back Better Plan.

Amazon's Climate Pledge Was A Commitment To Net-Zero Carbon Emissions By 2040, "'10 Years Ahead Of The Paris Climate Agreement.’" “Amazon is committed to building a sustainable business for our customers and the planet. In 2019, Amazon co-founded The Climate Pledge—a commitment to be net-zero carbon across our business by 2040, 10 years ahead of the Paris Agreement.”[Amazon, accessed 9/17/21]


Amazon President And CEO Andy Jassy Is A Member Of The Business Roundtable. According to the membership list, Amazon President Andy Jassy is a member of the Business Roundtable. [Business RoundTable, members, accessed 9/17/21]
The Business Roundtable, which represents large corporate executives, including the CEOs of Walmart and Apple, is preparing to fight the package's corporate tax increases. "Other opponents include the Business Roundtable, whose board counts the chief executives from Apple and Walmart. The group similarly is preparing to fight corporate tax increases, which Democrats hope will fund their vast new spending." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

- The Business Roundtable's spokesperson said it was preparing "a significant, multifaceted campaign" against the tax increases. "Jessica Boulanger, a spokeswoman for the Business Roundtable, said in a statement it is engaged in 'a significant, multifaceted campaign' to stop tax hikes and would 'continue to ramp up our efforts in the coming weeks.'" [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

August 2021: The Business Roundtable President and CEO Joshua Bolten called the $3.5 trillion budget resolution "troubling" as he claimed it would "dramatically" increase inflation and undermine the pandemic recovery. "Business Roundtable President & CEO Joshua Bolten today issued the following statement on the Senate budget resolution: [...] ‘But a $3.5 trillion budget resolution on top of this extraordinary spending is troubling. If the massive new spending contemplated in the proposed budget resolution were to materialize, inflation risks would increase dramatically, undermining recovery. In the longer term, a permanent $3.5 trillion increase in federal spending – and corresponding tax increases on American businesses – would impose a substantial debt burden on all Americans or dramatically undermine the competitiveness of the U.S. economy, and more likely do both.’" [The Business Roundtable, 08/10/21]

Bolten claimed the tax increases in the $3.5 trillion package would "counteract" the bipartisan infrastructure package's benefits. "Today's passage of a comprehensive infrastructure bill was a significant achievement made possible by bipartisan cooperation and compromise. As the Senate considers the budget resolution, Business Roundtable is deeply concerned about potential tax increases on U.S. job creators that would counteract the benefits of infrastructure investment. America needs prudent economic policies that boost, not undermine, the recovery, new job creation and long-term U.S. economic growth.'" [The Business Roundtable, 08/10/21]

Amazon is a member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which was assembling a coalition-wide fight against the Build Back Better Plan.

According to its most recent trade association disclosure in December 2020, Amazon was a member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. [Amazon Trade Association Disclosure, 2020]
Late August 2021: The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Was Assembling "An Economy-Wide Coalition To Coordinate The Fight" Against The Reconciliation Bill, Which Would Include Lobbying, And Ad Campaigns Against Democratic Lawmakers. "Among the most active is the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which is starting to put together an economy-wide coalition to coordinate the fight against the still forming economic package, including its significant price tag, policy scope and potential for tax increases. The effort could encompass traditional lobbying on Capitol Hill as well as advertising campaigns targeting Democratic lawmakers, according to three people familiar with the matter who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe the discussions." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

The Chamber Vowed To Do "'Everything We Can' To Block The Full Reconciliation Package, Which Its President And CEO Claimed It Would "'Halt America's Fragile Economic Recovery.'" "In a sign of the obstacles Democrats face, the Chamber of Commerce last week took a firm stand against the package, promising to do 'everything we can' to prevent Congress from adopting it in full. The group's president and chief executive, Suzanne Clark, issued the statement hours after the House adopted the $3.5 trillion budget that enabled Democrats to begin crafting tax and spending provisions — an approach, she said, that would 'halt America's fragile economic recovery.'" [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Is "The World's Largest Business Organization." "The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business organization representing companies of all sizes across every sector of the economy." [U.S. Chamber of Commerce, accessed 09/10/21]

Corporate Members Of Trade Associations That Are Actively Working To Block The Build Back Better Plan Have Also Been Donating To Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, Who Refuses To Commit To Supporting The Build Back Better Plan.


Mid-October 2021: Biden's Build Back Better Plan Was In Jeopardy As Sens. Manchin And Sinema Would Not Support The Plan. “If Democrats don't get their act together soon on President Joe Biden's Build Back Better plan, they will sink their own agenda and put their hold on power at greater risk. [...] In other words, progressives are going to have to give up on some of their goals to achieve others. But they have resisted making those choices themselves as the try to gauge what they can and can't get from the pivotal moderate Senate Democrats, Joe Manchin of West Virginia and Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona. [...] Sinema has resisted making a bargain before the House passes a separate bipartisan infrastructure measure that progressives blocked a few weeks ago.” [NBC News, 10/17/21]

- As Democrats Struggled To Amend The Plan To Get Sinema On Board, She Was Resisting Making A Bargain Before The House Passed A Separate Bipartisan Infrastructure Measure That Progressives Already Blocked. “If Democrats don't get their act together soon on President Joe Biden's Build Back Better plan, they will sink their own agenda and put their hold on power at greater risk. [...] In other words, progressives are going to have to give up on some of their goals to achieve others. But they have resisted making those choices themselves as the try to gauge what they can and can't get from the pivotal moderate Senate Democrats, Joe Manchin of West Virginia and Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona. [...] Sinema has resisted making a bargain before the House passes a separate bipartisan infrastructure measure that progressives blocked a few weeks ago.” [NBC News, 10/17/21]


AbbVie Political Action Committee Donated $2,500 To Sinema For Arizona In Q3 Of 2021. [FEC, 9/30/21]
The Business Roundtable Called Build Back Better “Troubling” As It Prepared “A Significant, Multifaceted Campaign” Against Tax Provisions In The Plan As AbbVie’s Chairman Of The Board And CEO Was A Member Of The Business Roundtable.

AbbVie’s Chairman Of The Board And CEO Is A Member Of The Business Roundtable. Richard A. Gonzalez, AbbVie’s Chairman of the Board and CEO is a member of the Business Roundtable. [Business RoundTable, members, accessed 10/15/21]

The Business Roundtable—Which Represents Large Corporate Executives, Including The CEOs Walmart And Apple–Is Preparing To Fight The Package’s Corporate Tax Provisions. "Other opponents include the Business Roundtable, whose board counts the chief executives from Apple and Walmart. The group similarly is preparing to fight corporate tax increases, which Democrats hope will fund their vast new spending." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

- The Business Roundtable’s Spokesperson Said It Was Preparing "A Significant, Multifaceted Campaign" Against The Tax Provisions. "Jessica Boulanger, a spokeswoman for the Business Roundtable, said in a statement it is engaged in 'a significant, multifaceted campaign' to stop tax hikes and would 'continue to ramp up our efforts in the coming weeks.'" [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

August 2021: The Business Roundtable President And CEO Joshua Bolten Called Build Back Better “Troubling” As He Claimed It Would “Dramatically” Increase Inflation And Undermine The Pandemic Recovery. "Business Roundtable President & CEO Joshua Bolten today issued the following statement on the Senate budget resolution: [...] 'But a $3.5 trillion budget resolution on top of this extraordinary spending is troubling. If the massive new spending contemplated in the proposed budget resolution were to materialize, inflation risks would increase dramatically, undermining recovery. In the longer term, a permanent $3.5 trillion increase in federal spending – and corresponding tax increases on American businesses – would impose a substantial debt burden on all Americans or dramatically undermine the competitiveness of the U.S. economy, and more likely do both.'" [The Business Roundtable, 08/10/21]

PhRMA Opposes Build Back Better And Ran Ads Against The Package As AbbVie’s Executive Vice President Served On The Trade Group’s Board.

AbbVie’s Executive Vice President Jeffery Stewart Is On The Board Of PhRMA. [PhRMA, members, accessed 10/15/21]

The Pharmaceutical Industry's "Top Trade Group" PhRMA Has Run Ads Against The Package, Claiming It Would Have Worsened The Pandemic. "And the pharmaceutical industry has embarked on its own wide-ranging campaign to combat Democrats’ drug pricing proposals, another potential revenue source in the bill. Conservative outfits previously backed by the sector’s top trade group, known as PhRMA, have run recent ads claiming lawmakers’ plans would have worsened the coronavirus pandemic." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

- A PhRMA Spokesperson Said The Group Opposed Democrats' Drug Pricing Reforms, Suggesting They Were "'Empty Promises That Will Do More Harm Than Good.'" "Brian Newell, a spokesman for PhRMA, stressed that the group supports general pricing reforms — just not the ideas Democrats are pursuing. 'The industry is willing to come to the table and do its fair share to help deliver real relief to patients at the pharmacy, not empty promises that will do more harm than good,' he said in a statement." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

Astellas Is A Part Of PhRMA, Which Has Been Campaigning Against The Build Back Better Plan, And Donated $3,000 To Senator Sinema In Q3 Of 2021.

Astellas US LLC PAC Donated $3,000 To Sinema For Arizona In Q3 Of 2021. [FEC, 8/31/21]
PhRMA Opposes Build Back Better And Ran Ads Against The Package As Astella's US's President Served On The Trade Group's Board.

Astellas US's President Mark Reisenauer Is On The Board Of PhRMA. [PhRMA, members, accessed 10/15/21]

The Pharmaceutical Industry's "Top Trade Group" PhRMA Has Run Ads Against The Package, Claiming It Would Have Worsened The Pandemic. "And the pharmaceutical industry has embarked on its own wide-ranging campaign to combat Democrats' drug pricing proposals, another potential revenue source in the bill. Conservative outfits previously backed by the sector's top trade group, known as PhRMA, have run recent ads claiming lawmakers' plans would have worsened the coronavirus pandemic." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

- A PhRMA Spokesperson Said The Group Opposed Democrats' Drug Pricing Reforms, Suggesting They Were "'Empty Promises That Will Do More Harm Than Good.'" "Brian Newell, a spokesman for PhRMA, stressed that the group supports general pricing reforms — just not the ideas Democrats are pursuing. 'The industry is willing to come to the table and do its fair share to help deliver real relief to patients at the pharmacy, not empty promises that will do more harm than good,' he said in a statement." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

AT&T Is A Part Of The RATE Coalition, PhRMA, And The Business Roundtable, Which Have All Been Campaigning Against The Build Back Better Plan, And Donated $2,000 To Senator Sinema In Q3 Of 2021.

AT&T Federal PAC Donated $2,000 To Sinema For Arizona In Q3 Of 2021. [FEC, 8/4/21]

The RATE Coalition Has Been Preparing A "Seven-Figure" Ad Campaign Against Build Back Better As AT&T Is A Member Of The Trade Group.

AT&T Is A Member Of The RATE Coalition. [The RATE Coalition, accessed 09/17/21]

The RATE Coalition, Which Represents Capital One, Disney, FedEx, Lowe's and Lockheed Martin, Has Been Preparing A "Seven-Figure" Ad Campaign Against The Reconciliation Package. "Other corporate interests are training their sights on Democrats' plans to pay for the bill through tax increases on businesses. Biden has proposed to raise the corporate rate to 28 percent from 21 percent, along with a slew of additional changes targeting profits earned overseas. The move has spawned outrage from companies that had spent significant sums four years ago to secure more favorable tax rules under President Donald Trump. The list of opponents includes the RATE Coalition, which counts support from Capital One, Disney, FedEx, Lowe's and Lockheed Martin. Over the next few months, the group is preparing a seven-figure digital advertising campaign to oppose Democrats' plans and highlight businesses that might be hurt in the process, according to a person with knowledge of the effort, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe the planning." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

RATE Coalition's "Chief Adviser," Former Sen. Blanche Lincoln (D-AR), Claimed "Any" Corporate Tax Increase Would "'Carry Devastating Consequences For American Workers.'" "Any increase in the rate would position our country even further behind global competitors like China — and carry devastating consequences for American workers,' said former senator Blanche Lincoln, a Democrat who serves as the group's chief adviser." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

The Senior Executive Vice President Of External And Legislative Affairs At AT&T Serves On The Board Of The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce, Which Was Assembling A Coalition-Wide Fight Against The Build Back Better Plan.

The U.S. Chamber’s Board Of Directors Includes AT&T’s Senior Executive Vice President Of External And Legislative Affairs Ed Gillespie. [U.S. Chamber of Commerce, accessed 10/15/21]
According To Its Most Recent Trade Association Disclosure In 2020, AT&T Was A Member Of The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce. [AT&T Trade Association Disclosure, 2020]

Late August 2021: The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Was Assembling "An Economy-Wide Coalition To Coordinate The Fight" Against The Reconciliation Bill, Which Would Include Lobbying, And Ad Campaigns Against Democratic Lawmakers. "Among the most active is the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which is starting to put together an economy-wide coalition to coordinate the fight against the still forming economic package, including its significant price tag, policy scope and potential for tax increases. The effort could encompass traditional lobbying on Capitol Hill as well as advertising campaigns targeting Democratic lawmakers, according to three people familiar with the matter who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe the discussions." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

The Chamber Vowed To Do "'Everything We Can'" To Block The Full Reconciliation Package, Which Its President And CEO Claimed It Would "'Halt America's Fragile Economic Recovery.'" "In a sign of the obstacles Democrats face, the Chamber of Commerce last week took a firm stand against the package, promising to do 'everything we can' to prevent Congress from adopting it in full. The group's president and chief executive, Suzanne Clark, issued the statement hours after the House adopted the $3.5 trillion budget that enabled Democrats to begin crafting tax and spending provisions — an approach, she said, that would 'halt America's fragile economic recovery.'" [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Is "The World's Largest Business Organization." "The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business organization representing companies of all sizes across every sector of the economy." [U.S. Chamber of Commerce, accessed 09/10/21]


AT&T’s CEO John Stankey Is A Member Of The Business Roundtable. John Stankey AT&T's CEO is a member of the Business Roundtable. [Business RoundTable, members, accessed 10/15/21]

The Business Roundtable–Which Represents Large Corporate Executives, Including The CEOs Walmart And Apple–Is Preparing To Fight The Package's Corporate Tax Increases. "Other opponents include the Business Roundtable, whose board counts the chief executives from Apple and Walmart. The group similarly is preparing to fight corporate tax increases, which Democrats hope will fund their vast new spending." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

- The Business Roundtable’s Spokesperson Said It Was Preparing "'A Significant, Multifaceted Campaign'" Against The Tax Increases. "Jessica Boulanger, a spokeswoman for the Business Roundtable, said in a statement it is engaged in 'a significant, multifaceted campaign' to stop tax hikes and would 'continue to ramp up our efforts in the coming weeks.'" [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

August 2021: The Business Roundtable President And CEO Joshua Bolten Called The $3.5 Trillion Budget Resolution "'Troubling'" As He Claimed It Would "'Dramatically'" Increase Inflation And Undermine The Pandemic Recovery. "Business Roundtable President & CEO Joshua Bolten today issued the following statement on the Senate budget resolution: [...] 'But a $3.5 trillion budget resolution on top of this extraordinary spending is troubling. If the massive new spending contemplated in the proposed budget resolution were to materialize, inflation risks would increase dramatically, undermining recovery. In the longer term, a permanent $3.5 trillion increase in federal spending – and corresponding tax increases on American businesses – would impose a substantial debt burden on all Americans or dramatically undermine the competitiveness of the U.S. economy, and more likely do both.'" [The Business Roundtable, 08/10/21]

Bolten Claimed The Tax Increases In The $3.5 Trillion Package Would "'Counteract'" The Bipartisan Infrastructure Package's Benefits. "Today's passage of a comprehensive infrastructure bill was a significant achievement made possible by bipartisan cooperation and compromise. As the Senate considers the budget resolution, Business Roundtable is deeply concerned about potential tax increases on U.S. job creators that
would counteract the benefits of infrastructure investment. America needs prudent economic policies that boost, not undermine, the recovery, new job creation and long-term U.S. economic growth.” [The Business Roundtable, 08/10/21]

Amazon Is A Part Of The RATE Coalition, PhRMA, And The Business Roundtable, Which Have All Been Campaigning Against The Build Back Better Plan, And Donated $5,000 To Senator Sinema In Q3 Of 2021.

Amazon.com Services LLC Donated $5,000 To Sinema For Arizona In Q3 Of 2021. [FEC, 9/30/21]


Amazon President And CEO Andy Jassy Is A Member Of The Business Roundtable. According to the membership list, Amazon President Andy Jassy is a member of the Business Roundtable. [Business RoundTable, members, accessed 9/17/21]

Andy Jassy
Amazon
President and Chief Executive Officer

[Business Roundtable, members, accessed 9/17/21]

The Business Roundtable–Which Represents Large Corporate Executives, Including The CEOs Walmart And Apple–Is Preparing To Fight The Package’s Corporate Tax Increases. "Other opponents include the Business Roundtable, whose board counts the chief executives from Apple and Walmart. The group similarly is preparing to fight corporate tax increases, which Democrats hope will fund their vast new spending." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

• The Business Roundtable’s Spokesperson Said It Was Preparing ""A Significant, Multifaceted Campaign"" Against The Tax Increases. "Jessica Boulanger, a spokeswoman for the Business Roundtable, said in a statement it is engaged in ‘a significant, multifaceted campaign’ to stop tax hikes and would ‘continue to ramp up our efforts in the coming weeks.’” [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

August 2021: The Business Roundtable President And CEO Joshua Bolten Called The $3.5 Trillion Budget Resolution ""Troubling"" As He Claimed It Would ""Dramatically"" Increase Inflation And Undermine The Pandemic Recovery. "Business Roundtable President & CEO Joshua Bolten today issued the following statement on the Senate budget resolution: [...] ‘But a $3.5 trillion budget resolution on top of this extraordinary spending is troubling. If the massive new spending contemplated in the proposed budget resolution were to materialize, inflation risks would increase dramatically, undermining recovery. In the longer term, a permanent $3.5 trillion increase in federal spending – and corresponding tax increases on American
Bolten Claimed The Tax Increases In The $3.5 Trillion Package Would "Counteract" The Bipartisan Infrastructure Package's Benefits. "Today's passage of a comprehensive infrastructure bill was a significant achievement made possible by bipartisan cooperation and compromise. As the Senate considers the budget resolution, Business Roundtable is deeply concerned about potential tax increases on U.S. job creators that would counteract the benefits of infrastructure investment. America needs prudent economic policies that boost, not undermine, the recovery, new job creation and long-term U.S. economic growth." [The Business Roundtable, 08/10/21]

Amazon Is A Member Of The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce, Which Was Assembling A Coalition-Wide Fight Against The Build Back Better Plan.

According To Its Most Recent Trade Association Disclosure In December 2020, Amazon Was A Member Of The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce. [Amazon Trade Association Disclosure, 2020]

Late August 2021: The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Was Assembling "An Economy-Wide Coalition To Coordinate The Fight" Against The Reconciliation Bill, Which Would Include Lobbying, And Ad Campaigns Against Democratic Lawmakers. "Among the most active is the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which is starting to put together an economy-wide coalition to coordinate the fight against the still forming economic package, including its significant price tag, policy scope and potential for tax increases. The effort could encompass traditional lobbying on Capitol Hill as well as advertising campaigns targeting Democratic lawmakers, according to three people familiar with the matter who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe the discussions." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

The Chamber Vowed To Do "'Everything We Can'" To Block The Full Reconciliation Package, Which Its President And CEO Claimed It Would "'Halt America's Fragile Economic Recovery.'" "In a sign of the obstacles Democrats face, the Chamber of Commerce last week took a firm stand against the package, promising to do 'everything we can' to prevent Congress from adopting it in full. The group's president and chief executive, Suzanne Clark, issued the statement hours after the House adopted the $3.5 trillion budget that enabled Democrats to begin crafting tax and spending provisions — an approach, she said, that would 'halt America's fragile economic recovery.'" [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Is "The World's Largest Business Organization." "The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business organization representing companies of all sizes across every sector of the economy." [U.S. Chamber of Commerce, accessed 09/10/21]
AbbVie And Toyota Both Claim To Support Climate Solutions Yet They Are Affiliated With Trade Groups Fighting The Build Back Better Act And Have Recently Donated To Sen. Manchin, Who Objects To Biden’s Clean Energy Program

SUMMARY: As Congress considers “its biggest climate change bill ever”—the Build Back Better Act—a "torrent of political groups" representing the nation's biggest industries prepared a "lobbying blitz" against the budget's proposals, undermining the nation's best shot at reaching 100% clean energy sources by 2035 and combating the "existential threat" of climate change.

Two major corporations that claim to act on climate change and sustainability are members of trade associations that are actively working to block the Build Back Better Plan all while donating to Sen. Joe Manchin, who held up the bill in part due to objections to Biden’s clean energy program. These companies include:

- **AbbVie** is part of both the Business Roundtable and PhRMA, two trade groups campaigning against the Build Back Better Act, and donated to Senator Manchin in the third quarter of 2021 as he opposed the legislation’s climate provisions. Yet, the company has publicly discussed their “ambitious, long-term environmental, and sustainability targets for absolute reductions to carbon emissions, water and waste generation, striving for zero waste to landfill at our sites.”

- **Toyota** is a member of The RATE Coalition, which is fighting against the Build Back Better plan, and also donated to Senator Manchin in the third quarter of 2021. However, its "Environmental Challenge 2050" seeks to nearly eliminate carbon emissions from its vehicles, dealers, and operations and to "operate in harmony with nature."

Major corporations need to decide if the future of the planet or the priorities of their trade groups are more important.

The $3.5 Trillion Reconciliation Bill To Advance President Biden's "Build Back Better" Agenda Is Congress' "Biggest Climate Change Bill Ever" — And A "Torrent Of Political Groups" Representing The Biggest Corporations Have Prepared A "Lobbying Blitz" Against The Package.

The Reconciliation Bill Under Consideration By Congress Would Be “Its Biggest Climate Change Bill Ever.”

President Biden's "Ambitious" Climate Change Plan Could Be Enacted If Congress Passes The “$3.5 Trillion Budget Package,” Which Would Advance His Broader "Build Back Better" Agenda For Economic Fairness. "President Biden's ambitious climate change plan could soon become a reality if Democrats in Congress succeed in passing a $3.5 trillion budget package. But first Democrats, who are crafting the legislation without Republican support, must overcome powerful opposition, some of it within their own party." [NPR, 09/15/21]

- **The $3.5 Trillion Budget Is Part Of President Biden's "Build Back Better" Agenda, Which Is Intended To "Create Jobs, Cut Taxes, And Lower Costs For Working Families" While Making Corporations And The Wealthy "Pay Their Fair Share" In Taxes.** "The Build Back Better Agenda includes President Biden's American Families Plan and key elements of the American Jobs Plan that were not included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal. In Washington, this proposal is known as 'reconciliation.' But the bottom line
is a plan that will create jobs, cut taxes, and lower costs for working families—all paid for by making the tax code fairer and making the wealthiest and large corporations pay their fair share." [The White House, 08/13/21]

The Budget Reconciliation Bill “Would Bring Extraordinary Changes To The Country’s Energy Sector” And “Lead To Huge Reductions In The Climate-Warming Greenhouse Gases The U.S. Emits.” “This legislation would bring extraordinary changes to the country's energy sector. It would lead to huge reductions in the climate-warming greenhouse gases the U.S. emits and change the kind of car many Americans drive.” [NPR, 09/15/21]


According To Experts, The Reconciliation Bill Would Help Put The U.S. On Track To Reach Critical Clean Energy Goals And Aid In Staving Off Some Of The Dangerous Effects Of Climate Change.

Natural Resources Defense Council Senior Advocate Sam Krasnow Said The Reconciliation Bill Would “‘Get Us To 80% Clean [Energy Sources] By 2030, On The Path To A [sic] 100% Clean By 2035.’” “Environmentalists, though, feel optimistic about how the energy and climate provisions of the budget legislation are coming together, with not just the electricity plan but also tens of billions of dollars in proposed tax credits for cleaner energy sources. It'll get us to 80% clean by 2030, on the path to a [sic] 100% clean by 2035,” said Sam Krasnow, senior advocate at the Natural Resources Defense Council.” [NPR, 09/15/21]

Analysis Of The Bill Found That It Would Help “Put The US On Track To Reduce Its Greenhouse Gas Emissions By Approximately 45% Below 2005 Levels By 2030” Which Is Viewed “As A Critical Step For The US To Get To Net-Zero Emissions By 2050, A Target Scientist[s] Warn The World’s Largest Carbon Emitters Must Hit To Limit Global Warming To 1.5 Degrees Celsius.” “In a letter sent Wednesday to congressional Democrats, Schumer said new analysis shows the combined impact of both bills would put the US on track to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 45% below 2005 levels by 2030. When you add Administrative actions being planned by the Biden Administration and many states -- like New York, California, and Hawaii -- we will hit our 50% target by 2030,’ Schumer wrote in the letter. The 50% target Schumer is referring to the new target to cut greenhouse gas emissions that Biden laid out at his virtual Earth Day summit earlier this year. During the summit, Biden vowed the United States would slash its emissions by 50 to 52% relative to 2005 levels by 2030. Many experts view Biden's 2030 goal as a critical step for the US to get to net-zero emissions by 2050, a target scientist warn the world's largest carbon emitters must hit to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. […] CNN has not yet been able to independently verify the figures in Schumer's letter, but Leon Clarke, the research director at the University of Maryland's Center for Global Sustainability, told CNN that it generally aligns with outside analysis.” [CNN, 08/25/21]


Bernie Sanders Op-Ed: “The Good News Is That The $3.5tn Budget Resolution That Was Recently Passed In The Senate Lays The Groundwork For A Historic Reconciliation Bill That Will […] In An Unprecedented Way, Address The Existential Threat Of Climate Change.” “The good news is that the $3.5tn budget resolution that was recently passed in the Senate lays the groundwork for a historic reconciliation bill that will not only substantially improve the lives of working people, elderly people, the sick and the poor, but also, in an unprecedented way, address the existential threat of climate change. More than any other legislation in American history it will transform our energy system away from fossil fuels and into energy efficiency and sustainable energy. This legislation will be a long-overdue step forward in the fight for economic, racial, social and environmental justice. It will also create millions of well-paying jobs. As chair of the Senate budget committee my hope is that the various committees will soon finish their work and that the bill will be on the floor and adopted by Congress in late September. [The Guardian, 08/18/21]
"A Torrent Of Political Groups" Representing The Biggest Corporations Prepared A "Lobbying Blitz" Against The Package.

Late August 2021: "A Torrent Of Political Groups" Representing The Biggest Corporations In Several Industries Were Preparing A "Lobbying Blitz" Against President Biden's $3.5 Trillion "Build Back Better" Agenda. "A torrent of political groups representing some of the country's most influential corporations — including ExxonMobil, Pfizer and the Walt Disney Company — are laying the groundwork for a lobbying blitz to stop Congress from enacting significant swaths of President Biden's $3.5 trillion economic agenda. The emerging opposition appears to be vast, spanning drug manufacturers, big banks, tech titans, major retailers and oil-and-gas giants." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

- Biden's "Build Back Better" Agenda Is Intended To "Create Jobs, Cut Taxes, And Lower Costs For Working Families" While Making Corporations And The Wealthy "Pay Their Fair Share" In Taxes. "The Build Back Better Agenda includes President Biden's American Families Plan and key elements of the American Jobs Plan that were not included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal. In Washington, this proposal is known as 'reconciliation.' But the bottom line is a plan that will create jobs, cut taxes, and lower costs for working families—all paid for by making the tax code fairer and making the wealthiest and large corporations pay their fair share." [The White House, 08/13/21]

AbbVie And Toyota Claim To Take Action On Climate Change And Sustainability, Yet Are Members Of Trade Associations Working To Block The Build Back Better Plan.

AbbVie Talked Openly About Their Climate Action Goals While Its Top Executives Were Affiliated With Both The Business Roundtable And PhRMA, Which Are Fighting Against The Build Back Better Plan.

AbbVie: “We Recognize The Environmental Risks Associated With Operating A Global Business—So We Have Set Ambitious, Long-Term Environmental Sustainability Targets For Absolute Reductions To Carbon Emissions, Water And Waste Generation, Striving For Zero Waste To Landfill At Our Sites, All While Driving Increases In Renewable Electricity And Fleet Sustainability.” “At AbbVie, we know that caring for people and patients means caring for the place we all call home. Protecting the environment is part of our commitment as scientific stewards. We recognize the environmental risks associated with operating a global business—so we have set ambitious, long-term environmental sustainability targets for absolute reductions to carbon emissions, water and waste generation, striving for zero waste to landfill at our sites, all while driving increases in renewable electricity and fleet sustainability.” [AbbVie, accessed 9/17/21]

The Business Roundtable Called Build Back Better “Troubling” As It Prepared “A Significant, Multifaceted Campaign” Against Tax Provisions In The Plan As AbbVie’s Chairman Of The Board And CEO Was A Member Of The Business Roundtable.

AbbVie’s Chairman Of The Board And CEO Is A Member Of The Business Roundtable. Richard A. Gonzalez, AbbVie’s Chairman of the Board and CEO is a member of the Business Roundtable. [Business RoundTable, members, accessed 10/15/21]

The Business Roundtable—Which Represents Large Corporate Executives, Including The CEOs Walmart And Apple—Is Preparing To Fight The Package’s Corporate Tax Provisions. "Other opponents include the Business Roundtable, whose board counts the chief executives from Apple and Walmart. The
group similarly is preparing to fight corporate tax increases, which Democrats hope will fund their vast new spending." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

- **The Business Roundtable’s Spokesperson Said It Was Preparing “A Significant, Multifaceted Campaign” Against The Tax Provisions.** "Jessica Boulanger, a spokeswoman for the Business Roundtable, said in a statement it is engaged in 'a significant, multifaceted campaign' to stop tax hikes and would 'continue to ramp up our efforts in the coming weeks.'" [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

**August 2021: The Business Roundtable President And CEO Joshua Bolten Called Build Back Better “Troubling” As He Claimed It Would “Dramatically” Increase Inflation And Undermine The Pandemic Recovery.** "Business Roundtable President & CEO Joshua Bolten today issued the following statement on the Senate budget resolution: [...] "But a $3.5 trillion budget resolution on top of this extraordinary spending is troubling. If the massive new spending contemplated in the proposed budget resolution were to materialize, inflation risks would increase dramatically, undermining recovery. In the longer term, a permanent $3.5 trillion increase in federal spending – and corresponding tax increases on American businesses – would impose a substantial debt burden on all Americans or dramatically undermine the competitiveness of the U.S. economy, and more likely do both.'" [The Business Roundtable, 08/10/21]

**PhRMA Opposes Build Back Better And Ran Ads Against The Package As AbbVie’s Executive Vice President Served On The Trade Group’s Board.**

**AbbVie’s Executive Vice President Jeffery Stewart Is On The Board Of PhRMA.** [PhRMA, members, accessed 10/15/21]

**The Pharmaceutical Industry’s “Top Trade Group” PhRMA Has Run Ads Against The Package, Claiming It Would Have Worsened The Pandemic.** "And the pharmaceutical industry has embarked on its own wide-ranging campaign to combat Democrats' drug pricing proposals, another potential revenue source in the bill. Conservative outfits previously backed by the sector’s top trade group, known as PhRMA, have run recent ads claiming lawmakers’ plans would have worsened the coronavirus pandemic." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

- **A PhRMA Spokesperson Said The Group Opposed Democrats’ Drug Pricing Reforms, Suggesting They Were “‘Empty Promises That Will Do More Harm Than Good.’”** "Brian Newell, a spokesman for PhRMA, stressed that the group supports general pricing reforms — just not the ideas Democrats are pursuing. 'The industry is willing to come to the table and do its fair share to help deliver real relief to patients at the pharmacy, not empty promises that will do more harm than good,' he said in a statement." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

**Toyota, Which Claims To Be Trying To Nearly Eliminate Carbon Emissions From Its Vehicles, Dealers, And Operations In The Coming Decades Is A Member Of The RATE Coalition, Which Is Fighting Against The Build Back Better Plan.**

**Toyota Has A Web Page Dedicated To The "Toyota Environmental Challenge 2050."**

![Toyota Environmental Challenge 2050](https://example.com/toyota-environmental-challenge-2050)
The Toyota Environmental Challenge 2050 Includes Six Goals—Three Of Which Are On Reducing Carbon Emissions—"That Seek To Go Beyond Eliminating Negative Environmental Impacts To Creating Net Positive Impacts On The Planet And Society." "The Toyota Environmental Challenge 2050 (Challenge 2050) is a set of six challenges — three on reducing CO2 emissions that cause climate change, one on conserving water, one on improving material flows, and one on protecting nature — that seek to go beyond eliminating negative environmental impacts to creating net positive impacts on the planet and society." [Toyota, accessed 09/17/21]

The Challenge 2050 Goals Include Reducing Carbon Emissions From New Vehicles By 90% And Eliminating Carbon Emissions From Suppliers, Dealers, And Operations—And One Goal To "Operate In Harmony With Nature." "The six goals of Challenge 2050 are:

- Challenge 1 – Reduce CO2 emissions from new vehicles by 90% (2010 baseline)
- Challenge 2 – Eliminate CO2 emissions from suppliers and dealers
- Challenge 3 – Eliminate CO2 emissions from operations
- Challenge 4 – Conserve water and protect water resources
- Challenge 5 – Support a recycling-based society
- Challenge 6 – Operate in harmony with nature"
[Toyota, accessed 09/17/21]

The RATE Coalition Has Been Preparing A "Seven-Figure" Ad Campaign Against Build Back Better And Toyota Is A Member Of The Trade Group.

Toyota Is A Member Of The RATE Coalition. [The RATE Coalition, accessed 09/17/21]

The RATE Coalition, Which Represents Capital One, Disney, FedEx, Lowe’s and Lockheed Martin, Has Been Preparing A "Seven-Figure" Ad Campaign Against The Reconciliation Package. "Other corporate interests are training their sights on Democrats’ plans to pay for the bill through tax increases on businesses. Biden has proposed to raise the corporate rate to 28 percent from 21 percent, along with a slew of additional changes targeting profits earned overseas. The move has spawned outrage from companies that had spent significant sums four years ago to secure more favorable tax rules under President Donald Trump. The list of opponents includes the RATE Coalition, which counts support from Capital One, Disney, FedEx, Lowe’s and Lockheed Martin. Over the next few months, the group is preparing a seven-figure digital advertising campaign to oppose Democrats’ plans and highlight businesses that might be hurt in the process, according to a person with knowledge of the effort, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe the planning." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

RATE Coalition’s “Chief Adviser,” Former Sen. Blanche Lincoln (D-AR), Claimed "Any" Corporate Tax Increase Would "Carry Devastating Consequences For American Workers." "Any increase in the rate would position our country even further behind global competitors like China — and carry devastating consequences for American workers,” said former senator Blanche Lincoln, a Democrat who serves as the group’s chief adviser." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]


Manchin Told The White House He Opposes The Clean Electricity Program Under President Biden’s Build Back Better Plan. “The most powerful part of President Biden’s climate agenda — a program to rapidly
replace the nation’s coal- and gas-fired power plants with wind, solar and nuclear energy — will likely be dropped from the massive budget bill pending in Congress, according to congressional staffers and lobbyists familiar with the matter. Senator Joe Manchin III, the Democrat from coal-rich West Virginia whose vote is crucial to passage of the bill, has told the White House that he strongly opposes the clean electricity program, according to three of those people.” [New York Times, 10/15/21]

- In Response To Manchin’s Opposition, White House Staffers “Are Now Rewriting The Legislation Without That Climate Provision, And Are Trying To Cobble Together A Mix Of Other Policies That Could Also Cut Emissions.” “The most powerful part of President Biden’s climate agenda — a program to rapidly replace the nation’s coal- and gas-fired power plants with wind, solar and nuclear energy — will likely be dropped from the massive budget bill pending in Congress […] As a result, White House staffers are now rewriting the legislation without that climate provision, and are trying to cobble together a mix of other policies that could also cut emissions.” [New York Times, 10/15/21]

During “A Closed-Door Meeting,” Sen. Manchin Rejected Requests From Several Senators “To Reconsider His Opposition To The Clean Electricity Payment Program.” “In a closed-door meeting last Thursday, Manchin rejected entreaties from several senators. The meeting was attended by a dozen members from Western states — but not Sinema. Along with Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.), they asked Manchin to reconsider his opposition to the Clean Electricity Payment Program. It offers incentives to utilities to provide cleaner energy, according to senators and aides.” [Axios, 9/30/21]

AbbVie Is A Part Of Both The Business Roundtable And PhRMA, Which Have Been Campaigning Against The Build Back Better Plan, And Donated To Senator Manchin In Q3 Of 2021.

On September 29, 2021, AbbVie Political Action Committee Donated $2,500 To Manchin For West Virginia. [FEC, 9/29/21]

The Business Roundtable Called Build Back Better “Troubling” As It Prepared “A Significant, Multifaceted Campaign” Against Tax Provisions In The Plan As AbbVie’s Chairman Of The Board And CEO Was A Member Of The Business Roundtable.

AbbVie’s Chairman Of The Board And CEO Is A Member Of The Business Roundtable. Richard A. Gonzalez, AbbVie’s Chairman of the Board and CEO is a member of the Business Roundtable. [Business RoundTable, members, accessed 10/15/21]

The Business Roundtable—Which Represents Large Corporate Executives, Including The CEOs Walmart And Apple—Is Preparing To Fight The Package’s Corporate Tax Provisions. "Other opponents include the Business Roundtable, whose board counts the chief executives from Apple and Walmart. The group similarly is preparing to fight corporate tax increases, which Democrats hope will fund their vast new spending." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

- The Business Roundtable’s Spokesperson Said It Was Preparing “A Significant, Multifaceted Campaign” Against The Tax Provisions. "Jessica Boulanger, a spokeswoman for the Business Roundtable, said in a statement it is engaged in 'a significant, multifaceted campaign' to stop tax hikes and would 'continue to ramp up our efforts in the coming weeks.'” [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

August 2021: The Business Roundtable President And CEO Joshua Bolten Called Build Back Better “Troubling” As He Claimed It Would “Dramatically” Increase Inflation And Undermine The Pandemic Recovery. "Business Roundtable President & CEO Joshua Bolten today issued the following statement on the Senate budget resolution: [...] 'But a $3.5 trillion budget resolution on top of this extraordinary spending is troubling. If the massive new spending contemplated in the proposed budget resolution were to materialize, inflation risks would increase dramatically, undermining recovery. In the longer term, a permanent $3.5 trillion increase in federal spending – and corresponding tax increases on American businesses – would impose a
substantial debt burden on all Americans or dramatically undermine the competitiveness of the U.S. economy, and more likely do both.” [The Business Roundtable, 08/10/21]

PhRMA Opposes Build Back Better And Ran Ads Against The Package As AbbVie’s Executive Vice President Served On The Trade Group’s Board.

AbbVie’s Executive Vice President Jeffery Stewart Is On The Board Of PhRMA. [PhRMA, members, accessed 10/15/21]

The Pharmaceutical Industry’s "Top Trade Group" PhRMA Has Run Ads Against The Package, Claiming It Would Have Worsened The Pandemic. "And the pharmaceutical industry has embarked on its own wide-ranging campaign to combat Democrats’ drug pricing proposals, another potential revenue source in the bill. Conservative outfits previously backed by the sector’s top trade group, known as PhRMA, have run recent ads claiming lawmakers’ plans would have worsened the coronavirus pandemic.” [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

- A PhRMA Spokesperson Said The Group Opposed Democrats' Drug Pricing Reforms, Suggesting They Were "Empty Promises That Will Do More Harm Than Good." "Brian Newell, a spokesman for PhRMA, stressed that the group supports general pricing reforms — just not the ideas Democrats are pursuing. 'The industry is willing to come to the table and do its fair share to help deliver real relief to patients at the pharmacy, not empty promises that will do more harm than good,' he said in a statement." [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]

Toyota Is A Member Of The RATE Coalition, Which Has Been Preparing A "Seven-Figure" Ad Campaign Against Build Back Better, And Donated To Senator Manchin In Q3 Of 2021.

On July 23, 2021, Gulf States Toyota Inc. PAC Donated $3,000 To Manchin For West Virginia. [FEC, 7/23/21]

The RATE Coalition Has Been Preparing A "Seven-Figure" Ad Campaign Against Build Back Better As Toyota Is A Member Of The Trade Group.

Toyota Is A Member Of The RATE Coalition. [The RATE Coalition, accessed 10/15/21]

The RATE Coalition, Which Represents Capital One, Disney, FedEx, Lowe's And Lockheed Martin, Has Been Preparing A "Seven-Figure" Ad Campaign Against Build Back Better. "Other corporate interests are training their sights on Democrats’ plans to pay for the bill through tax increases on businesses. Biden has proposed to raise the corporate rate to 28 percent from 21 percent, along with a slew of additional changes targeting profits earned overseas. The move has spawned outrage from companies that had spent significant sums four years ago to secure more favorable tax rules under President Donald Trump. The list of opponents includes the RATE Coalition, which counts support from Capital One, Disney, FedEx, Lowe’s and Lockheed Martin. Over the next few months, the group is preparing a seven-figure digital advertising campaign to oppose Democrats’ plans and highlight businesses that might be hurt in the process, according to a person with knowledge of the effort, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe the planning.” [The Washington Post, 08/31/21]