

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL ENGINEERS AFL-CIO & CLC

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August 12, 2022

Dear Representative,

As the executive officers of the International Federation of Professional & Technical Engineers (IFPTE), a labor union representing upwards of 90,000 union members who work throughout the federal, public, and private sectors, we urge you to pass the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, H.R. 5376. This legislation improves the lives of Americans by investing in clean energy and manufacturing, by controlling the cost of prescription drugs for seniors, and by making sure corporations pay their fair share of taxes.

The Inflation Reduction Act's provisions supporting clean energy, fuel efficiency, innovative technologies, and energy security will help move our economy toward carbon neutral goals. The legislation commits \$369 billion to advanced energy generation and promoting the domestic manufacturing and supply chains necessary to make a clean energy transition with good paying union jobs. As a whole, these provisions are expected to result in a 40% reduction in the nation's carbon emissions by 2030.

Significantly, we are pleased to see that the Inflation Reduction Act allows public utilities – for the first time – to benefit from clean energy investment and production incentives that other utilities and companies have had access to. For IFPTE members working at the Tennessee Valley Authority and at other public utilities, as well IFPTE members working at privately-owned utilities such as PG&E, the extension and expansion of these incentives help support union jobs, prevailing wage requirements, and apprenticeships as our nation's energy sector moves toward carbon neutrality.

Further, the Inflation Reduction Act makes significant strides toward economic fairness while fully funding the bill through progressive taxation policies. The inclusion of a corporate minimum tax rate makes sure large corporations and multinational firms – including those that currently pay little to no federal income taxes in some years – pay at least 15% tax, which is around the average tax rate paid by individuals. The legislation also adds an excise tax on corporate stock buybacks.

Finally, Inflation Reduction Act will permit Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices, control drug price increases and cap insulin costs for seniors, and lower out-of-pocket costs for Medicare beneficiaries. These prescription drug price reforms, along with enhanced Affordable Care Act premium tax credits contained in the bill, are an important advancement. IFPTE will continue to advocate for legislation to expand the prescription drug provisions in this bill to all working people.

We regret that the Inflation Reduction Act does not include provisions to strengthen workers' rights to organize unions and penalties for employers who violate the National Labor Relations Act, provisions which were included in previous budget reconciliation proposals. IFPTE remains committed to improving enforcement of our labor laws as well as passing comprehensive labor law reform.

For the reasons cited above, we ask you to pass the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. This legislation delivers on its promise to reduce inflation and will enact fair tax policies, lower energy and prescription drug costs, and support good union jobs that provide the technologies needed to reduce carbon emissions. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact IFPTE Legislative Director Faraz Khan at 202-239-4892 of fkhan@ifpte.org.

Sincerely,

Matthew S. Biggs IFPTE President

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IFPTE Secretary-Treasurer

