



## Policy Resolution Group Reconciliation & Infrastructure Update

May 20, 2022

Please find below the latest edition of the Policy Resolution Group's FY2022 Budget Reconciliation & Infrastructure Update.

Included in this newsletter are sections on:

- State of Infrastructure and Reconciliation Negotiations
- Liam Donovan's Bottom Line
- PRG Podcasts
- Document Library

### **State of Infrastructure and Reconciliation Negotiations**

The past week saw little public progress on a reconciliation package, but glimmers of hope have emerged in both trade press and public statements by administration officials. Although congressional priorities remain divided over a conference on China competitiveness legislation, aid for Ukraine, and messaging bills relating to rising gas prices, Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm indicated she is "bullish" that "at least some version of those [clean energy] tax credits is still possible." Those tax credits may come from a bipartisan energy compromise that Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) has continued to negotiate, but they are far more likely to come from a pared down version of the House passed Build Back Better Act. A window of opportunity may be emerging with reports indicating Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) has been meeting with Sen. Manchin, but Democrats will need to act quickly to achieve consensus before the midterm campaign cycle and the September 30 deadline to pass a reconciliation bill.

### **Liam Donovan's Bottom Line**

As Congress barrels through the fourth week of a crucial five-week work period, Democrats' path forward on reconciliation remains as murky as ever, even as the window for action begins to close. While the chatter has picked up, as have the conversations among key principals, nothing suggests a significant change in trajectory. And should Congress head into the Memorial Day recess with no mutual understanding of what, if anything, can garner 50 votes, the odds of salvaging even the narrowest elements of Biden's domestic agenda on a partisan basis diminish significantly as we enter the summer months.

The optimistic case goes something like this: Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) are in direct talks, with the hope of reaching some sort of framework agreement by the end of next week. Lessons have been learned from the leaks and public posturing that plagued the first iteration of BBB for nearly a year, and both men are being uncharacteristically tight lipped. Given that the failures to date have been punctuated by outside noise, relative quiet and calm—to say nothing of reduced expectations—is a positive thing for giving them room to find a way to yes.

A grimmer outlook is easier to muster. Bipartisan energy talks spearheaded by Manchin occurred for the fourth time in four weeks, representing an all-but-certain dead end in the near term, while also providing an outlet for the West Virginia moderate to deflect pressure regarding reconciliation. So long as the bipartisan dream remains alive, however nominally, Manchin has a rhetorical escape hatch at his disposal. Whether or not these talks continue in earnest, the lack of resolution—and the new addition of Senator Kyrsten Sinema, with her own set of new ideas—complicate a potential reconciliation pivot.

To the extent there has been a revelation this week, it is the White House’s arm’s length approach to the reconciliation endgame. If there is a deal to be had, it won’t be Joe Biden, erstwhile master of the Senate, swooping in to save the day. The ball is firmly in the hands of the majority leader as the clock winds down, while the Administration and the rest of the caucus are left to stand back and watch.

This strategy can be read any number of ways. Has the White House determined that there is no deal to be had, or to the extent there is one, the risk is not worth the slimmed-down reward? Or perhaps Manchin himself has indicated, explicitly or implicitly, that he would prefer to deal with Schumer directly, rather than a White House staff he blamed for the previous blow-up in December. Regardless, it amounts to a recognition of residual scar tissue left by a year’s worth of wheel-spinning.

In any event, it remains unthinkable to much of official Washington that Democrats could allow something as precious as a fully primed reconciliation vehicle to simply go to waste. Even if a bigger deal that includes a broad swath of climate investments cannot be reached, there may be an effort to use the privileged legislative tool to move urgent health policy-related fixes. With the looming expiration of premium support measures contained in the American Rescue Plan, there is a growing fear that failure to act might hit Americans with big health insurance bills right before the midterms. (As activists are keen to note, Manchin’s West Virginia constituents may see some of the steepest increases, as much as thousands per month.) If we reach June or July with no progress, expect talks around a health-centric “drug pricing plus” package as a break-glass option, while the appetite for a post-election tax policy bill is certain to grow.

For another week, at least, all eyes remain on the Chuck and Joe show.

### **PRG Podcasts**

Need more PRG? Try listening to our podcasts!

[Madam Policy](#) - “Trust your gut. Work hard when you can. And do what you love.” These are the words of Emmy-award winning journalist Jessica Schneider, who joined hosts Dee Martin and

Caitlin Sickles on the latest episode of Madam Policy. As a justice correspondent for CNN, Jessica has mastered the art of incorporating the legal knowledge she gained while practicing law with her love for storytelling. Tune in as Jessica talks about how high school news program started her journey in journalism; why she is a self-proclaimed “adventurist”; and her work reporting on everything from the opinions of the U.S. Supreme Court to the work of the FBI. Listen [HERE](#).

[The Lobby Shop](#) - This week, The Lobby Shop team is joined by the highly acclaimed Ahilan Arulanatham, who is a Professor from Practice and Co-Director of the Center for Immigration Law and Policy at UCLA School of Law. This episode’s discussion covers everything from competitive debate and populism to the ongoing debate surrounding Title 42, a health order which has significant immigration implications. Tune in to gain in-depth insight into the complex world of immigration. Listen [HERE](#).

### **Document Library**

#### **FY23 Budget**

For President Biden’s Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2023 click [HERE](#).

For Analytical Perspectives on the FY23 Budget Request click [HERE](#).

For the FY23 Budget Request Appendix click [HERE](#).

For Supplemental Materials on the FY23 Budget Request click [HERE](#).

#### **New Relevant Documents**

For a memo issued by Patrick Gaspard, CEO of the Center for American Progress Action Fund urging Democratic offices to pass a skinner version of the Build Back Better plan click [HERE](#).

#### **Bill Text and Summaries**

For the House Committee on Rules information page on the Build Back Better Act, including recordings of committee meetings and proposed amendments click [HERE](#).

House Bill Text and Comparisons:

- For the House Rules Committee Print of the Build Back Better Act released on November 3 click [HERE](#).
- For the 1<sup>st</sup> Manager’s Amendment adopted and agreed to on November 6, 2021 click [HERE](#).
- For the 2<sup>nd</sup> Manager’s Amendment adopted and agreed to on November 18, 2021 click [HERE](#).
- For a comparative print between the November 3 print and the October 28 print click [HERE](#).
- For a comparative print between the November 3 print and the initial text of H.R. 5376 click [HERE](#).
- For the House Committee on Rules page on the Build Back Better Act, including announcements, videos, bill text, amendments, and votes click [HERE](#).

Senate Bill Text:

- For the Senate legislative text for “Title I - Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry” click [HERE](#).
- For the Senate legislative text for “Title II - Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions” click [HERE](#).
- For the Senate Legislative Text for “Title III – Committee on Environment and Public Works” click [HERE](#).
- For the Senate legislative text for “Title IV - Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs” click [HERE](#).
- For the Senate legislative text for “Title V - Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs” click [HERE](#).
- For the Senate legislative text for “Title VII – Committee on Energy and Natural Resources” click [HERE](#).
- For the Senate legislative text for “Title VIII - Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation” click [HERE](#).
- For the Senate legislative text for “Title IX - Committee on Indian Affairs” click [HERE](#).
- For the Senate legislative text for “Title X - Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship” click [HERE](#).
- For the Senate legislative text for “Title XI - Committee on Veterans' Affairs” click [HERE](#).
- For the Senate legislative text for “Title XII - Committee on Finance” click [HERE](#).

Summaries and Fact Sheets:

- For a section-by-section summary of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a fact sheet on the agriculture provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a fact sheet on the homeland security provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a fact sheet on the science, space, and technology provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a fact sheet on the energy & commerce provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a fact sheet on the judiciary provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a fact sheet on the small business provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a fact sheet on the education & labor provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a fact sheet on the natural resources provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a fact sheet on the financial services provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a fact sheet on the oversight and reform provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a fact sheet on the transportation & infrastructure provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a fact sheet on the veterans’ affairs provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a fact sheet on the ways & means provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).

**Budgetary Effects**

For the Congressional Budget Office’s summary of the cost estimate for H.R. 5376, the Build Back Better Act, click [HERE](#).

For a December 8 update from the Congressional Budget Office on the budgetary effects of the Build Back Better Act, click [HERE](#).

For the Congressional Budget Office's report on the budgetary effects of making specified policies in the Build Back Better Act permanent, click [HERE](#).

House bill:

- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Homeland Security provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Small Business provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Veterans Affairs provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Science, Space, and Technology provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Transportation and Infrastructure provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Oversight and Reform provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Financial Services provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Energy and Commerce provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Judiciary provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Ways and Means provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Education and Labor provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Natural Resources provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Agriculture provisions in the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).

Senate bill:

- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Senate's "Title I - Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry" of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Senate's "Title II - Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions" of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Senate's "Title III - Committee on Environment and Public Works" of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office's estimated budgetary effects of the Senate's "Title IV - Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs" of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).

- For the Congressional Budget Office’s estimated budgetary effects of the Senate’s “Title V - Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs” of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office’s estimated budgetary effects of the Senate’s “Title VII - Committee on Energy and Natural Resources” of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office’s estimated budgetary effects of the Senate’s “Title VIII - Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation” of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office’s estimated budgetary effects of the Senate’s “Title IX - Committee on Indian Affairs” of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office’s estimated budgetary effects of the Senate’s “Title X - Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship” of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Congressional Budget Office’s estimated budgetary effects of the Senate’s “Title XI - Committee on Veterans' Affairs” of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the Joint Committee on Taxation’s preliminary review of estimated budgetary effects of the Senate’s “Title XII - Committee on Finance” of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).

Other Budgetary Estimates:

- For the Joint Committee on Taxation’s Estimated Budget Effects of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For the White House’s preliminary budgetary estimates of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).
- For a Dear Colleague Letter from the Speaker of the House issued on November 4 regarding the preliminary budget estimate of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).

**October 28 Text**

For the House Rules Committee Print of the Build Back Better Act released on October 28 click [HERE](#).

For a section-by-section summary of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).

For the Build Back Better Framework released on October 28 click [HERE](#).

For the White House fact sheet on the Build Back Better Framework released on October 28 click [HERE](#).

**September 27 Text**

For the text of H.R. 5376 the Build Back Better Act as reported by the House Committee on the Budget on September 27 click [HERE](#).

For the report from the Committee on the Budget to accompany H.R. 5376 click [HERE](#).

**Background Material**

For the Congressional Research Service report on “The Senate’s ‘Byrd Rule’” click [HERE](#).

## **Provisional Text**

For a preliminary budget reconciliation framework signed by Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Sen. Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) on July 28 click [HERE](#).

For the House Committee on the Budget's full text of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).

- For Part 1 of the House Committee on the Budget's report on the Build Back Better act click [HERE](#).
- For Part 2 of the House Committee on the Budget's report on the Build Back Better act click [HERE](#).
- For Part 3 of the House Committee on the Budget's report on the Build Back Better act click [HERE](#).

For the summary of the Senate budget resolution click [HERE](#).

- For the text of the Senate budget resolution click [HERE](#).
- For the committee print to accompany the FY22 budget resolution click [HERE](#).
- For Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer's (D-NY) dear colleague letter regarding the climate impacts of the budget resolution click [HERE](#).

For the summary of the House budget resolution click [HERE](#).

- For the text of House Resolution advancing the bipartisan infrastructure agreement, the Senate budget resolution, and H.R. 4 the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2021 click [HERE](#).

For a summary of Sen. Ron Wyden's (D-OR) proposals for tighter tax rules on partnerships and an excise tax on stock buybacks click [HERE](#).

- For the text of Sen. Wyden's proposals click [HERE](#).

## **Markups**

**Agriculture:** For the text of the House Agriculture Committee print containing legislative proposals click [HERE](#).

- For a summary of the proposals click [HERE](#).

**Education and Labor:** For the text of the House Committee on Education & Labor print containing legislative proposals click [HERE](#).

- For an amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Chairman Bobby Scott (D-VA) click [HERE](#).

**Energy and Commerce:** For a fact sheet of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce markup of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).

- For a memorandum on the markup click [HERE](#).
- For Subtitle A on Air Pollution click [HERE](#).
- For Subtitle B on Hazardous Materials click [HERE](#).
- For Subtitle C on Drinking Water click [HERE](#).
- For Subtitle D on Energy click [HERE](#).
- For Subtitle E on Drug Pricing click [HERE](#).
- For Subtitle F on Affordable Care Coverage click [HERE](#).

- For Subtitle G on Medicaid click [HERE](#).
- For subtitle H on CHIP click [HERE](#).
- For subtitle I on Medicare click [HERE](#).
- For subtitle J on Public Health click [HERE](#).
- For subtitle K on Next Generation 9-1-1 click [HERE](#).
- For subtitle L on Wireless Connectivity click [HERE](#).
- For subtitle M on Distance Learning click [HERE](#).
- For subtitle N on the Manufacturing Supply Chain click [HERE](#).
- For subtitle O on FTC Privacy Enforcement click [HERE](#).
- For subtitle P on the Department of Commerce Inspector General click [HERE](#).
- For a full committee action summary click [HERE](#).

**Financial Services:** For the text of the House Committee on Financial Services click [HERE](#).

- For an amendment in the nature of substitute offered by Chairwoman Maxine Waters (D-CA) click [HERE](#).
- For the committee Memorandum click [HERE](#).
- For the text of H.R. 5195, the “Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2021” click [HERE](#).
- For the text of H.R. 5196, the “Expediting Assistance to Renters and Landlords Act of 2021” click [HERE](#).

**Homeland Security:** For the committee print of the reconciliation of the House Homeland Security Committee print containing legislative proposals click [HERE](#).

- For the amendments adopted click [HERE](#).

**Judiciary:** For the text of the House Committee on the Judiciary print containing legislative proposals click [HERE](#).

- For an amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Chairman Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) click [HERE](#).

**Natural Resources:** For the text of the House Natural Resources Committee print containing legislative proposals click [HERE](#).

**Science, Space, and Technology:** For the committee print of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee print containing legislative proposals click [HERE](#).

- For an amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Chairwoman Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) click [HERE](#).

**Small Business:** For the text of the House Committee on Small Business print containing legislative proposals click [HERE](#).

- For an amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Chairwoman Nydia Velázquez (D-NY) click [HERE](#).

**Transportation and Infrastructure:** For the text of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee print containing legislative proposals click [HERE](#).

- For the amendment in nature of a substitute click [HERE](#).

**Ways and Means:** For a summary of the House Ways and Means Committee markup of the Build Back Better Act click [HERE](#).

- For a memorandum on the markup click [HERE](#).
- For a section-by-section summary of subtitles A-E click [HERE](#).
  - For Subtitle A on Universal Paid Family and Medical Leave click [HERE](#).
  - For Subtitle B on Retirement click [HERE](#).
  - For Subtitle C on Child Care Access and Equity click [HERE](#).
  - For Subtitle D on Trade Adjustment Assistance click [HERE](#).
  - For Subtitle E, Part 1 on Health Careers click [HERE](#). For Part 2 on Elder Justice click [HERE](#). For Part 3 on Skilled Nursing Facilities click [HERE](#). For Part 4 on Medicare Dental, Hearing, and Vision Coverage click [HERE](#).
- For a section-by-section summary of Subtitle F-J click [HERE](#).
  - For legislative recommendations relating to infrastructure financing, green energy, social safety net, and prescription drugs click [HERE](#).
  - For the estimated budgetary effects of the revenue provisions from the Joint Committee on Taxation click [HERE](#).
  - For the estimated distributional effects of the revenue provisions from the Joint Committee on Taxation click [HERE](#).
  - For a description of the Chairman’s Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute from the Joint Committee on Taxation click [HERE](#).
  - For a summary of Subtitle F on Infrastructure from the Joint Committee on Taxation click [HERE](#).
  - For a summary of Subtitle G on Green Energy from the Joint Committee on Taxation click [HERE](#).
  - For a summary of Subtitle H on the Social Safety Net from the Joint Committee on Taxation click [HERE](#).
  - For a summary of Subtitle J on Drug Pricing from the Joint Committee on Taxation click [HERE](#).
- For a section-by-section summary of Subtitle I click [HERE](#).
  - For legislative recommendations relating to Funding Our Priorities click [HERE](#).
- For the Joint Committee on Taxation’s estimated budgetary effects of legislative recommendations relating to infrastructure financing and community development, green energy, social safety net, responsibly funding our priorities, and drug pricing click [HERE](#).
- For the final vote results click [HERE](#).

## **Letters**

For a letter for Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer on the environmental benefits of the infrastructure bill and reconciliation bill see [HERE](#).

For Senator Joe Manchin’s Opinion piece calling for a strategic pause on spending click [HERE](#).

For a letter from Rep. Stephanie Murphy (D-FL) and Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX) rejecting deficit spending except on climate policy click [HERE](#).

For a letter from Democrats calling for increased support for biofuels click [HERE](#).

For a letter from House Democrats supporting the Polluter Pays Climate Fund Act click [HERE](#).

For a letter from House Democrats supporting an array of international tax provisions see [HERE](#).

For a letter from Democratic governors supporting the budget reconciliation bill click [HERE](#).

For an endorsement of the environmental provisions from a coalition of environmental groups see [HERE](#).

For a letter from the United Mine Workers of America opposing the initial proposal for a Clean Electricity Standard click [HERE](#).

For a letter from America's Power opposing the Clean Electricity Performance Program click [HERE](#).

For a letter from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association opposing the Clean Electricity Performance Program click [HERE](#).

For a letter from the American Public Power Association opposing the Clean Electricity Performance Program click [HERE](#).

For a letter from America Electric Power opposing the Clean Electricity Performance Program click [HERE](#).

---

[bracewell.com](http://bracewell.com)

[policyresolutiongroup.com](http://policyresolutiongroup.com)



*Bracewell LLP makes this information available for educational purposes. This information does not offer specific legal advice or create an attorney-client relationship with the firm. Do not use this information as a substitute for specific legal advice. Attorney advertising.*

*Bracewell is a leading law and government relations firm primarily serving the energy, infrastructure, finance and technology sectors throughout the world.*

*Our industry focus results in comprehensive state-of-the-art knowledge of the commercial, legal and governmental challenges faced by our clients and enables us to provide innovative solutions to facilitate transactions and resolve disputes.*

*If you are an EU citizen and would like to be forgotten, please click [here](#).*

Texas

New York

Washington, DC

Connecticut

Seattle

Dubai

London