September 25, 2023

Dear Chairwoman Murray, Vice Chair Collins, Chairwoman Granger, and Ranking Member DeLauro,

Our states are reeling from this summer’s extreme weather. Our communities faced unprecedented levels of dangerous pollution due to uncontrolled wildfires across the continent.\(^1\) Our residents suffered in the hottest summer on record.\(^2\) The excessive heat, wildfires, flooding, and powerful storms caused by the climate crisis affect all of us, with the most profound impacts falling disproportionately on historically marginalized communities that are least prepared to address the financial, public health, and public safety consequences.\(^3\) And we face mounting

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costs associated with responding to and recovering from these and other climate change-induced
disasters, which threaten only to accelerate in the coming months and years.4

Congress established critical tools to respond to these growing threats by passing the
Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). Many of our states previously have advocated in support of
equitable and effective implementation of this groundbreaking law,5 which promises major steps
toward a just transition away from fossil fuels—reducing greenhouse gas emissions while also
creating good, green jobs. But to fulfill its promise, IRA program funding must be preserved, and
federal agencies must have the resources to conduct their important oversight and
implementation responsibilities.

In particular, we oppose proposed appropriations bills that threaten to, among other things:
• revoke funding for programs to help rural small businesses and agricultural producers
  convert to renewable energy and make energy cleaner, more reliable, and more affordable
  for Americans living in rural areas;
• rescind grants intended to spur economic opportunity in disadvantaged communities
  while also reducing pollution and spurring clean energy technology; and
• undermine support that would enable low- to moderate-income families to make
  important transitions to cleaner homes and appliances.6

We, the undersigned states, urge you to ensure that these promised programs become a reality.

An efficient, effective, and equitable roll-out of the IRA also requires robust funding for
the agencies Congress has tasked with its implementation and oversight. In particular, the
Treasury Department requires significant resources to educate consumers and taxpayers about
the tax benefits and rebates available to them, and for the IRS efficiently to process them. This is
not the time to be clawing back funding from this essential agency.

The IRA presents an enormous opportunity to make critical strides toward an equitable
clean energy economy, advance environmental justice and resilience, and stave off the worst
effects of the climate crisis. Thank you for your leadership and your continued support for the
IRA at this pivotal moment.

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(2023), https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/billions/.
5 See Comments of the Attorneys General of Massachusetts, Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, Maine, Maryland,
Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, and the District of Columbia; the California Air
Resources Board, and the Ramsey County, Minnesota, Attorney on Implementation Guidance for the Inflation
room/statements-releases/2023/09/12/state-fact-sheets-house-republicans-funding-bills-would-have-devastating-
impacts-for-hard-working-families-across-america/.
Sincerely,

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

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