

# Stop Congress from Rolling Back Health and Environmental Protections



**Congress is putting environmental and public health safeguards at risk!** Big corporate polluters and their friends are pushing an extreme agenda as the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate consider the 2024 federal spending plan. Some Members of Congress are proposing extreme spending cuts, including to programs that keep pollution in check. So far, the House majority has drafted budget bills that include cuts to non-defense discretionary spending as well as hundreds of “poison pill” riders. Congress must pass clean spending bills that place the focus of the federal budget and appropriations process back where it belongs: on providing ample funding and advancing the public interest.

Bedrock laws and agencies like the Clean Water Act and the Environmental Protection Agency must be protected, yet some members of Congress have shown they care more about their corporate polluter friends than our water or air.

## What's at Stake

**Clean Water Act Definitions:** Congress has already drafted legislation that would remove the revised Clean Water Act definition of the waters of the United States. This would endanger drinking water sources for Americans, and put wetlands at risk.

**Environmental Justice:** Members of the House have targeted President Biden's Justice40 initiative — attempting to prohibit 40% of the overall benefits of federal investments to flow to disadvantaged communities. These investments include clean energy, efficient energy, and clean water.

**Water Infrastructure:** The Republican House members are taking this as an opportunity to line their polluter's friend's pockets while harming what progress we have made. Proposed cuts would decimate federal water infrastructure investments we need to modernize drinking water systems and protect communities from water pollution.

**Fighting Against Climate Change:** Extremist congressional members are attacking any attempt at curbing the impacts of climate change — they have introduced a series of cuts that hinders electric vehicle production, funds to assist developing countries in curbing their fossil fuel use. They even have introduced legislation that would prohibit funding and international disaster relief for any loss or damage attributed to climate change!

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Programs:** The extremist agenda proposes to cut EPA funding to the lowest levels in more than 30 years, despite years of underfunding. The House majority's bill would slash clean water protections and environmental clean-up programs, doom critical species to extinction, and undo critical investments to tackle the climate crisis. Instead of slashing its budget, Congress should be increasing funding for EPA to help ensure clean water, clean air, and to address the climate crisis.

**Take Action Now:** *Tell Your Members of Congress to stand up to attacks on our health and environment!*

➤ *Sample Letter on Back*

## ➤ WRITE A LETTER TODAY!

### *Stop Congress from Rolling Back Health and Environmental Protections!*

Please write your representative in the House, and both of your Senators. To find and write to your Members of Congress visit: <https://whoismyrepresentative.com>



#### SAMPLE LETTER

Dear Senator/Representative,

I urge you to support clean water, clean air and healthy communities. Please reject any attempts to weaken or dismantle our most important protections, and to oppose budget cuts to our most vital programs and agencies. Poison pills and riders designed to gut clean water protections should be rejected on all fronts. Please stand up to attacks on:

- Clean Water provisions such as the agreed upon definition of the waters of the united states
- Environmental Justice programs such as Justice40 — gutting these programs would do irrevocable harm to communities of color and at-risk communities.
- EPA’s budget for putting laws into action to protect health and natural resources and responding to crises such as lead contamination.

I urge you to stand with people — not polluters. Please oppose efforts to undermine protections for our nation’s air, land, water, and wildlife.

Sincerely,

*Print Your Name and Address*

