



National Audubon Society

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On behalf of the National Audubon Society's 1.7 million members, we write to express our support of the Moving Forward Act (H.R. 2) and its important infrastructure investments, including funding to increase the resiliency and sustainability of critical infrastructure systems and to restore natural landscapes. The bill is a step toward building a better America with a more resilient economy, with more jobs, cleaner air and stronger communities that protect birds, conserve water, restore wetlands, reduce emissions and build a safer and brighter future for humans and birds alike.

Additionally, we applaud the bill's call for investments in programs to encourage and fund green- and nature-based solutions for reducing stormwater pollution and protecting vulnerable infrastructure systems, and investments to expand clean energy to reduce carbon pollution from critical sectors like transportation, buildings, and electricity. Investments like those outlined in the Moving Forward Act will not only help create jobs for the millions of people that have been affected by the economic crisis created by COVID-19, but it will also provide much-needed funding to support "climate smart" and equitable investments in critical infrastructure systems.

During debate of H.R. 2 on the House floor, we strongly urge a **"YES"** vote on the following en bloc amendments and support their inclusion in the final bill:

- **En Bloc Amendment Part B**

41. Tlaib (MI), Barragán (CA), Ocasio-Cortez (NY), Brownley (CA)	#13	Adds to the Climate Resilient Transportation Infrastructure Study a requirement to outline how Federal infrastructure planning, design, engineering, construction, operation, and maintenance impacts the environment and public health of disproportionately exposed communities.
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- **En Bloc Amendment Part C**

24. Quigley (IL)	#12	Requires GSA to incorporate strategies, features, and practices to reduce bird fatality resulting from collisions with public buildings, which GSA owns, acquires, or alters.
30. Speier (CA), Huffman (CA), Garamendi (CA), Lofgren (CA), Thompson, Mike (CA)	#221	Increases the authorized amount of the San Francisco Bay Restoration grant program from \$25 million to \$50 million.

- **En Bloc Amendment Part D**

8. Dingell (MI)	#252	Establishes a Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator to bolster and expand a robust clean energy workforce, deploy emissions reduction technologies, and invest in low-carbon infrastructure projects as an independent non-profit capitalized with \$20 billion of federal funds spread over a six-year period. The Accelerator is also authorized to provide financial and technical support to state and local green banks in the United States.
9. Foster (IL)	#301	Includes language in the Grid Security and Modernization section that would require the Secretary of Energy to provide goals and objectives, cost targets, a multi-year strategy, and testing and validation requirements for energy storage. The language also includes a limitation on the total number of demonstration projects to focus on the most promising technologies.
17. Matsui (CA), Sarbanes (MD)	#88	Authorizes a program at the Department of Energy to deliver grants to utilities that partner with nonprofit tree-planting organizations to provide free or discounted trees with the goal of reducing energy costs, reducing neighborhood temperatures, and promote local workforce development and community engagement.
28. Takano (CA)	#1	Adds "battery storage technologies" for residential, industrial, and transportation applications.

- **En Bloc Amendment Part E**

9. Dingell (MI), Fortenberry (NE), Raskin (MD)	#139	Adds the bipartisan natural infrastructure bill H.R.3742, the Recovering America's Wildlife Act, which will enable States, Territories, and Tribes to complete habitat restoration and natural infrastructure projects, specified in Congressionally-mandated Wildlife Action Plans, to recover more than 12,000 wildlife, fish, and plant species of greatest conservation need, build recreational and educational infrastructure, and bolster community resilience through natural defenses.
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20. McKinley (WV), Veasey (TX), Fletcher (TX), Sewell (AL), Schweikert (AZ), Peters (CA), Costa (CA), Miller (WV), Cisneros (CA), Horn (OK)	#256	Authorizes and provides funding for a DOE carbon capture, utilization, and storage technology commercialization program and direct air capture technology prize program.
24. Scott, Bobby (VA), Sarbanes (MD), Wittman (VA)	#205	Authorizes the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to establish a program to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay watershed by investing in green infrastructure, habitat preservation, and ecosystem restoration to enhance community resilience, improve water quality, and increase recreational opportunities while also creating jobs and enhancing economic opportunities.

Again, we strongly urge you to vote **“Yes”** on these en bloc amendments and support final passage of H.R. 2, the Moving forward Act. This bill and these amendments will make important investments to “future proof” our country’s infrastructure in ways that will create jobs, and deliver environmental benefits for both communities and birds and the places they need. Please consider us a trusted resource moving forward on this and other issues where healthy communities, economies, and wildlife can overlap.

Sincerely,

Jesse Walls  
 Senior Dir., Government Affairs  
 National Audubon Society