



KEEPING POSTED

Powering Progress— The First Anniversary of **The Inflation Reduction Act**



August 16th marks the one-year anniversary of the Inflation Reduction Act. In the last two years, President Biden has made a number of tactical decisions that have led to an economic boom. This historic legislation is a significant first step toward **tackling the climate crisis, health care affordability and making corporations pay their fair share of taxes.** Arizona is one of the biggest beneficiaries of Biden's nationwide industrial investment initiatives. Just two states share almost a fifth of this massive investment: Arizona and Georgia. With almost 13,000 clean-energy jobs added last year, Arizona is becoming a center of excellence for energy production and electric vehicles.

The Challenge for Democrats

The Inflation Reduction Act is the first of many steps on climate, health care, and economic wellbeing that voters have the power to enact by electing Democrats.

Now more than ever we must fight through the noise and make sure that Biden's accomplishments shine through.



Tackling the Climate Crisis

- **Clean Energy Technology:** \$4.1 billion is being [invested](#) in Arizona between now and 2030 for large-scale clean power generation and storage. Arizona ranks 5th in the country for solar-powered electricity generation and storage.
- **Single Biggest Investment in Averting Climate Disaster Ever:** Climate change is an existential threat to our country's health, economy, national security, and more. The IRA invests **\$370 billion** to address climate change—by far the single biggest investment in U.S. history.
- **Fighting Drought:** Arizona is facing a historic drought and is seeing its first ever [Tier 2a Colorado River Basin shortage](#). The IRA includes \$4 billion to respond to the climate change-driven drought in the West, \$550 million for domestic water supply projects, and \$12.5 million for emergency drought relief for tribes.
- **Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** The goal of the IRA is to reduce carbon emissions nationwide by approximately 40 percent by 2030. The IRA invests \$27 billion into a Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, \$5 billion for locally based greenhouse gas reduction plans, and \$236 million for air pollution monitoring.

Money in our Pockets—Tax Credits and Rebates for Consumer Clean Energy Upgrades

- **The Inflation Reduction Act** establishes rebate programs and tax credits for high-efficiency home energy improvements. **Rewiring America** has created an [online calculator](#) that shows what credits or rebates homeowners might be eligible for, depending on their ZIP code and income.
- [Home Efficiency Tax Credits](#) for home clean electricity products, heating, cooling, and water heating, and other energy efficiency upgrades. A separate incentive called the [Residential Clean Energy Tax Credit](#) covers 30% of the costs of new, qualified clean energy property for your home including solar, wind, geothermal, and fuel-cell technology. Both programs are covered [together](#) here.
- [Qualified Plug-In Electric Drive Motor Vehicle Credit](#) for [new and used clean vehicles](#), (Electric, Plug-In Hybrid, and Hydrogen Fuel Cell) credit of up to \$7,500 for a new clean vehicle, and a credit of up to 30% or \$4,000, whichever is less for a used clean vehicle.
- [Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Credit](#) a credit for 30% of the cost of alternative fuel refueling property, including installation of an electric vehicle charging station.

Money in Our Pockets—Lowered Health Care Costs

- **Lowering Health Insurance Premiums for Millions of Americans:** The American Rescue Plan Act capped [healthcare.gov](#) insurance premiums to 8.5% of household income. The Inflation Reduction act [extends these subsidies through 2025](#). Due to the increased premium subsidies, monthly premium payments are lower and more people are able to enroll in a marketplace plan.
- **Lowering Prescription Drug Prices:** The IRA finally allows [Medicare to negotiate the price](#) of certain high cost drugs, which will lower costs for Arizona’s Medicare beneficiaries. In 2023, Medicare requires [drug manufacturers to provide rebates](#) if they raise their prices for certain drugs faster than the rate of inflation.
- **Cap on Seniors’ Out-of-Pocket Prescription Drug Expenses:** The IRA will cap annual out-of-pocket prescription drug expenses to \$2000 for seniors with Medicare Part D beginning in 2025. See [“Changes to Medicare Part D in 2024 and 2025](#) under the Inflation Reduction Act and How Enrollees Will Benefit.” The IRA will also end co-payments for Part D vaccines like the shingles vaccine.

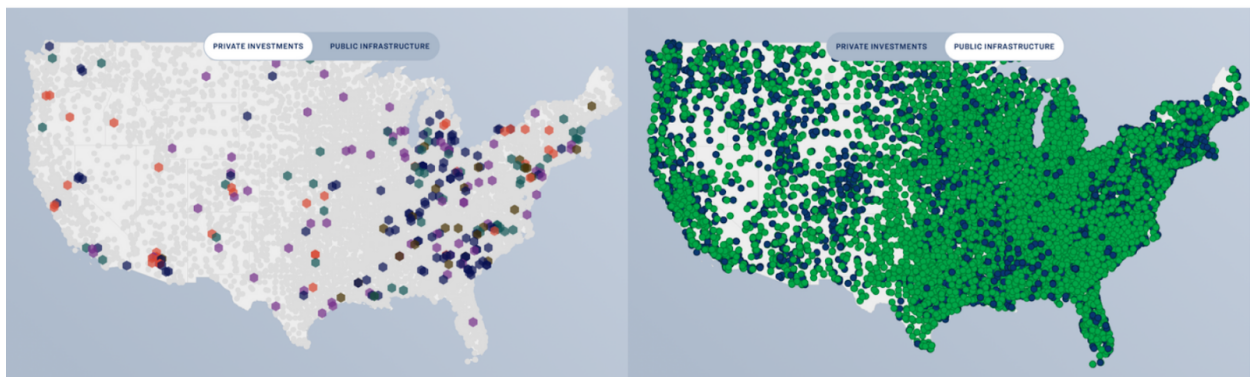
- **Cap on Price of Insulin for Seniors: The IRA caps insulin to \$35 a month for Medicare beneficiaries.** Nearly four million seniors with diabetes who are on Medicare started to see their insulin costs capped at \$35 per month last January. President Biden called for drug companies to extend that cap to all Americans in his State of the Union Address. More pharmaceutical companies followed Eli Lilly's lead and announced a \$35 cap for all Americans in March 2023.
- **Making Medicare Even More Affordable: The IRA expands income eligibility for full Part D Low-Income Subsidies for Medicare beneficiaries to 150% of the federal poverty level starting in 2024**

On Top of it All, the Inflation Reduction Act Levels the Playing Field

How is the IRA paid for? Thanks to the minimum corporate tax rate being set at 15%, big corporations are going to finally be paying what they owe! Billion-dollar corporations will no longer get a free ride off of average Americans like our nurses, firefighters and teachers.

President Biden's Investing in America Agenda

With [Invest.gov](https://invest.gov), you can explore public and private investments around the country that are supported by historic legislation passed by Congress. These include the Inflation Reduction Act, American Rescue Plan, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, CHIPS and Science Act. The Center for American Progress offers an alternative [Biden Investment Tracker](#) that can perform more detailed analysis.



Staying Informed

Several of our DORR members have been enthusiastic about veteran Democratic Strategist Simon Rosenberg's "Hopium Chronicles" column on Substack. Biden's economic achievements have been covered by Rosenberg for some time. We urge you to [subscribe](#) (it's free) and check out his posts, presentations, podcasts, and pep talks. They are sure to put a smile on your face!

Let's Celebrate the *First Anniversary* of the

Inflation Reduction Act!

**DORR Educational Breakfast
In Person and at Home**

Friday, August 18, 2023 at 9:30am

Let's celebrate with a special birthday cake!!

Enjoy speakers from **The Environmental Defense Fund** and **Solar United Neighbors!**

The meeting/celebration will be held from 9:30 until 11 am on Friday, August 18th at The Sedona Community Center, 2615 Melody Lane. (\$10.00) and on zoom at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89569635520?pwd=L00xbGRUZEVNNa294Zm4yNjFMMeGQ3Zz09>

