

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3203

July 9, 2021

Dear Colleague:

As Senate Democrats prepare for the upcoming work period, we must approach our work with the same unity and urgency that we have embraced all year.

We have already made excellent progress towards our goals of rebuilding our nation's infrastructure, confronting the threat of climate change, and investing in American families. Just last month, President Biden signed the Senate's Congressional Review Act resolution nullifying President Trump's methane emissions rule. Next week, millions of American families will receive their first monthly Child Tax Credit checks enacted through the American Rescue Plan. And every day vaccines continue to make their way across the country thanks to the emergency funding we provided earlier this year.

These are just some of the ways we're showing the American people that electing Democratic majorities to Congress makes a big difference. But there is more work to be done.

As the country continues its rapid recovery from the COVID crisis thanks to the American Rescue Plan, our legislative focus will soon turn towards laying a strong foundation for the future.

When the Senate returns to session, we will keep working to pass President Biden's American Jobs and Families Plan. As I have said for weeks, discussions about infrastructure have continued steadily along two tracks:

On the bipartisan infrastructure track, our committees are working tirelessly with the White House and the bipartisan infrastructure group to turn their recent agreement into legislation.

On the second track, the Senate Budget Committee continues their work on a FY 2022 Budget Resolution to enact the remaining elements of the American Jobs and Families Plan—especially provisions on climate change, health care and the caring economy. I want to thank the Senators and their staffs working on both tracks for their hard work during the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

My intention for this work period is for the Senate to consider *both* the bipartisan infrastructure legislation *and* a budget resolution with reconciliation instructions, which is the first step for passing legislation through the reconciliation process.

Please be advised that time is of the essence and we have a lot of work to do. Senators should be prepared for the possibility of working long nights, weekends, and remaining in Washington into the previously-scheduled August state work period.

Alongside these crucial legislative priorities, the Senate will continue to confirm more of President Biden's highly qualified judicial nominees. Thanks to Senate Democrats, President Biden has seen more total circuit and district court nominees confirmed before July 4<sup>th</sup> of his first year than any other recent president. We will continue this critical work in the months to come. As always, Senate Democrats stand ready to expeditiously fill any potential vacancies on the Supreme Court should they arise.

Our fight to protect voting rights has also only just begun. Last month, all fifty Senate Democrats united for the first time this Congress to move forward on a strong and comprehensive voting rights bill. Shamefully, Republicans refused to even allow a debate on voting rights legislation.

But I want to be very clear: last month's vote represented the starting gun—not the finish line—in our fight to protect our democracy. Later this month, Senator Klobuchar will hold a field hearing in Georgia to further examine the disgraceful tactics that Republican-led state legislatures are using across the country to keep people from voting. And as Majority Leader, I reserve the right to bring back voting rights and democracy reform legislation for another vote on the Senate floor.

In closing, I want to thank my Democratic colleagues for their tireless work over the past six months. As I mentioned, we still have a lot more important work to do and the items outlined in this letter do not represent an exhaustive list as there could be more that the Senate considers this work period. I am confident that if we remain united around our values, we can build on the success of this year and accomplish big things on behalf of the American people.

With the needs of the country front of mind, let us continue our work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles Schumer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator