



August 4, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Congressional Leaders:

We are greatly encouraged by the recent action of the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee to advance unanimously S. 2130, Reinvesting in Shoreline Economies and Ecosystems Act (RISEE) of 2021, for consideration by the full Senate. This is a critical turning point in our nation's and the world's fight to address climate change and to protect our coastlines, and we offer our strong support for this forward-thinking legislation.

With 8.6 million Americans living in areas susceptible to coastal flooding and more than \$1 trillion in homes and other structures that sit within feet of the current waterline, we need a serious program to combat rising sea levels in our communities. We were pleased to see Senator Whitehouse and Senator Cassidy introduce the RISEE Act with strong bipartisan support, demonstrating the shared interest of lawmakers from all corners of the country to tackle these important issues.

Current law requires all revenue generated from offshore wind leases and production beyond state waters to be returned to the U.S. Treasury. S. 2130 establishes a process for offshore wind revenue sharing. Those revenues can then be used by states to invest in projects that directly address coastal restoration, hurricane protection, infrastructure improvements and mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. While our states would surely benefit from this legislation, it should be noted that all coastal and Great Lakes states would benefit if this bill is enacted.

Americans living in many of our coastal states are already seeing the effects of climate change. We urge you to swiftly pass the RISEE Act of 2021 and give states the resources they need. We look forward to working with you to pass this legislation and support our coastal communities.

Sincerely,



Governor Ned Lamont  
State of Connecticut



Governor John Bel Edwards  
State of Louisiana



Governor Janet Mills  
State of Maine



Governor Charlie Baker  
State of Massachusetts



Governor Larry Hogan  
State of Maryland



Governor Phil Murphy  
State of New Jersey



Governor Kathy Hochul  
State of New York



Governor Roy Cooper  
State of North Carolina



Governor Dan McKee  
State of Rhode Island