

**NOVEMBER 2021**

# UNDERSTANDING THE LATEST ACTIVITY ON THE HILL

## THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT AND THE BUILD BACK BETTER ACT

---

On November 5, 2021, the House of Representatives passed the \$1.2 trillion, bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act by a 228-to-206 vote. President Joe Biden signed the legislation on Monday, November 15, 2021,<sup>1</sup> enabling his administration to begin a historic upgrade to America's infrastructure.

However, the Democrats have a lot of work to do to pass another significant legislative priority the Build Back Better Act, which expands the social safety net at a level that hasn't been seen since the 1960s.<sup>2</sup>

### Part 1: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

"Generations from now, people will look back and know this is when America won the economic competition for the 21st century," President Biden said after the House passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.<sup>3</sup>

Assuring Americans this groundbreaking legislation will create jobs and boost U.S. competitiveness,<sup>3</sup> he added, "This is a blue-collar blueprint to rebuild America, and it's long overdue."<sup>4</sup>

### Here are some funding highlights

Traditional infrastructure refers to a nation's transportation network: roads, bridges, railways, airports and ports, water and power grid. More recently, infrastructure also includes broadband internet service.

The 2,702-page Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act primarily addresses funding normally allocated each year to these traditional infrastructure projects. \$550 billion of its \$1.2 trillion price tag is for new spending – which will have an impact felt across the entire country.

It includes funding for:<sup>5</sup>

- Roads and bridges (\$110B)
- Railroads (\$66B)
- Power grid (\$65B)
- Broadband (\$65B)
- Water infrastructure (\$55B)
- Cybersecurity/climate change (\$47B)
- Public transit (\$39B)
- Airports (\$25B)
- Environment (\$21B)
- Ports (\$17B)
- Safety (\$11B)
- Western water infrastructure (\$8B)
- Electric school buses (\$7.5B)
- Electric vehicle charging stations (\$7.5B)

## Part 2: The Build Back Better Act

Under President Biden, new legislation would significantly expand the social safety net. President Biden, when discussing the legislation, claimed, “The Build Back Better Act will be a once-in-a-generation investment in our people.”<sup>6</sup>

### What’s currently in this bill?

At \$1.75 trillion – a figure released by the House Budget Committee on November 5, 2021 – the proposed Build Back Better Act has been scaled down from its earlier \$3.5 trillion price tag and includes funding for:<sup>3</sup>

- Childcare and universal preschool
- Family and medical leave
- Extended Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Credit
- Expanded home care for older people/those with disabilities
- Affordable housing and child nutrition
- Higher education and workforce development
- Equity and other investments
- Supply chain investments
- State and Local Tax (SALT) deduction relief
- Lower prescription drug costs
- Affordable Care Act (ACA) credits
- Medicare hearing coverage
- Clean energy and climate
- Cooperative alternative minimum tax
- Immigration

### The path ahead

If the House passes the Build Back Better Act, it’s not clear yet how it will fare in the Senate.<sup>4</sup> The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) is expected to provide an estimate the week of November 15 that determines whether this legislation adds to the deficit.<sup>2</sup>

Along with the omnibus budget bill and debt ceiling, as well as rising inflation, the CBO’s findings will help decide the future of the Build Back Better Act.

1. [“President Biden to sign Bipartisan infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Monday.”](#) Whitehouse.gov, Accessed November 10, 2021.
2. Cornwell, Susan and Brice, Makini. [“U.S. Democrats pass \\$1 trillion infrastructure bill, ending daylong standoff.”](#) Reuters, November 6, 2021.
3. Probasco, Jim. [“Understanding the Infrastructure Bills.”](#) Investopedia, November 6, 2021.
4. Watson, Kathryn and Lynch Baldwin, Sarah. [“Biden calls infrastructure bill a ‘once-in-a-generation’ investment after House sends it to his desk.”](#) CBS News, November 6, 2021.
5. U.S. Senate. [“H. R. 3684 - Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.”](#) Accessed Nov. 6, 2021.
6. [“Statement by President Joe Biden on the House Passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.”](#) Whitehouse.gov, Accessed November 6, 2021.

This information is a general discussion of the relevant federal tax laws provided to promote ideas that may benefit a taxpayer. It is not intended for, nor can it be used by any taxpayer for the purpose of voiding federal tax penalties. Taxpayers should seek the advice of their own advisors regarding any tax and legal issues specific to their situation.

This is a general communication for informational and educational purposes. The information is not designed, or intended, to be applicable to any person’s individual circumstances. It should not be considered investment advice, nor does it constitute a recommendation that anyone engage in (or refrain from) a particular course of action. If you are seeking investment advice or recommendations, please contact your financial professional.

Insurance products are issued by Minnesota Life Insurance Company in all states except New York. In New York, products are issued by Securian Life Insurance Company, a New York authorized insurer. Minnesota Life is not an authorized New York insurer and does not do insurance business in New York. Both companies are headquartered in St. Paul, MN. Product availability and features may vary by state. Each insurer is solely responsible for the financial obligations under the policies or contracts it issues.

Securian Financial is the marketing name for Securian Financial Group, Inc., and its subsidiaries. Minnesota Life Insurance Company and Securian Life Insurance Company are subsidiaries of Securian Financial Group, Inc.

**Securian Financial Group, Inc.**  
[securian.com](https://www.securian.com)

400 Robert Street North, St. Paul, MN 55101-2098  
©2021 Securian Financial Group, Inc. All rights reserved.

F98264 DOFU 11-2021  
1920617