

# WMC

Wisconsin's Chamber

August 11, 2022

The Honorable Bryan Steil  
U.S. Representative  
1526 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Scott Fitzgerald  
U.S. Representative  
1507 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mark Pocan  
U.S. Representative  
1727 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Glenn Grothman  
U.S. Representative  
1427 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ron Kind  
U.S. Representative  
1502 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Tiffany  
U.S. Representative  
1719 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gwen Moore  
U.S. Representative  
2252 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Gallagher  
U.S. Representative  
1230 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Inflation Reduction Act, H.R. 5376**

Dear Members of the Wisconsin Congressional Delegation,

Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce (WMC) is Wisconsin's largest business association representing 3,800 employers of all sizes and from every sector. WMC urges you to oppose the Inflation Reduction Act (H.R. 5376).

For starters, the Congressional Budget Office recently revealed that this legislation would do little to curb inflation. At best, it would reduce inflation by 0.1 percent, or it may increase inflation by the same number.

Beyond failing to accomplish the goal stated in the name of the legislation, it would also raise taxes by billions of dollars and increase costs across the board. By the technical definition – and from what numerous employers have told us directly – the United States has entered into a recession. Now is not the time to increase taxes.

According to estimates, the so-called Inflation Reduction Act would increase taxes by over \$1 billion on coal production and \$6.5 billion on natural gas. Given more than three-quarters of Wisconsin's energy generation comes from coal and natural gas, this would result in higher prices for Wisconsin ratepayers.

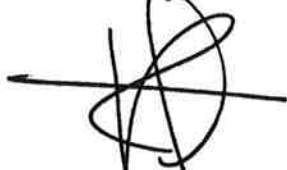
The bill also would add \$12 billion in taxes to crude oil, which would be passed directly onto consumers. Even with recent reductions in the price for gas, it is still 60 cents per gallon more than a year ago and far higher than the roughly \$2 per gallon Wisconsinites were paying in August 2020.

Worse yet, the Senate-passed version would hike taxes by \$225 billion on companies that employ millions of Americans, including Wisconsinites.

Instead of raising costs for businesses and Wisconsin families alike, I urge you to work with your colleagues in Congress and within the Biden Administration to pursue tax, energy and workforce policies that strengthen our economy.

Again, I urge you to stand up for Wisconsin employers and their employees by opposing H.R. 5376.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kurt R. Bauer', written over a horizontal line.

Kurt R. Bauer  
President/CEO