



April 28, 2021

U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support S.J.Res.14, an important step in reducing methane pollution

Dear Senator,

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) works to turn environmental values into national priorities. Each year, LCV publishes the *National Environmental Scorecard*, which details the voting records of members of Congress on environmental legislation. The *Scorecard* is the nationally accepted yardstick used to rate members of Congress on environmental, public health, and energy issues and is distributed to LCV members, concerned voters, and the media.

LCV urges you to vote YES on Senate Joint Resolution 14 (S.J.Res.14), the Congressional Review Act Resolution of Disapproval of the Environmental Protection Agency's rule to roll back the 2016 methane standards for new and modified sources in the oil and gas industry. By eliminating this rule, S.J.Res.14 will clear the way for EPA to create strong critical safeguards against methane pollution that will help protect the health of our communities and tackle the climate crisis.

Methane is a potent greenhouse gas, responsible for about 25 percent of the climate change we are experiencing today, and the oil and gas industry is the largest industrial source of methane pollution. Reducing this methane pollution is therefore key to slowing down the warming we are experiencing now. Methane pollution is also often accompanied by the release of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and other hazardous air pollutants that jeopardize the health of nearby communities, especially in low-income communities and communities of color that already bear the brunt of pollution.

The EPA's 2016 methane standards were an important step in reducing this dangerous pollution, but the previous administration's rule to eliminate these cost-effective safeguards was a step in the wrong direction. Federal efforts to regulate methane pollution are supported by environmental and public health groups, as well as utilities, states, and even the oil and gas companies themselves. It is critical that Congress undue this irresponsible rollback and give EPA a clean slate to move forward with widely supported, sensible safeguards for methane and other air pollution from oil and gas production.

Again, we urge you to SUPPORT S.J.Res. 14, which will put us back on track to reducing dangerous methane pollution from the oil and gas industry and establishing strong safeguards that will protect our health and fight the climate crisis. We will strongly consider including votes on this legislation in the 2021 Scorecard. If you need more information, please reach out to a call my office at (202) 785-8683 and ask to speak with a member of our government relations team.

Sincerely,

Gene Karpinski
President