



THE CLIMATE STRONG ISLANDS NETWORK

May 6, 2021

The Honorable Raul M. Grijavla
United States House of Representatives
Chair, Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Grijavla,

The Climate Strong Islands Network endorses the Insular Area Climate Change Act and encourages the U.S. House of Representatives to pass this proposed legislation. The Climate Strong Islands Network (CSIN) is composed of over 60 member organizations and represents and advocates on behalf of U.S. islands and their communities to drive effective policies and resources in support of these important and unique places and their communities.

In 2020, CSIN members signed the Climate Strong Islands Declaration, calling on government agencies, foundation, corporations, environmental groups, and others to:

- Recognize the potential of islands to develop and perfect transformative approaches to energy, transportation, solid waste, agriculture, ocean, and coastal management.
- Support efforts to make island economies more sustainable, self-sufficient, and resilient.
- Review existing policies, practices, and priorities to determine if they disadvantage or marginalize island communities.
- Collaborate in a respectful and participatory way with island communities to develop new initiatives, programs, and projects that help them respond effectively to the growing climate crisis and other environmental challenges.
- Increase the level of funding and technical support available to island communities as they work to transform the critical systems on which they depend.
- Ensure that island communities are able to more meaningfully participate in funding and policy-making activities that affect their future.

The Insular Area Climate Change Act supports many of these goals and would further engender support from the federal government to fund critical projects, repairs, and services as well as provide necessary and timely technical assistance for island communities.

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