



07.26.23

**ICYMI: BUDGET COMMITTEE'S HEARING
"BEYOND THE BREAKING POINT: THE FISCAL
CONSEQUENCES OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON
INFRASTRUCTURE"**

Contents

- 1- Witness Statements
- 2- Highlights
- 3- Online Buzz
- 4- Press Coverage
- 5- Photos



WITNESS STATEMENTS



"We cannot sit by and allow climate change to overpower us.

Boldly and strategically investing in the infrastructure that our communities depend on will save money in the long run by avoiding the most devastating impacts of climate change to our citizens."

**The Honorable John Bel Edwards
Governor of Louisiana**

"Climate change is impacting energy infrastructure everywhere around the country – and in unpredictable time frames.

But when such impacts happen, they predictably involve high costs – incurred after the fact to repair the infrastructure, increasing the energy bills of consumers and the expenses of governments."

**The Honorable Susan F. Tierney, Ph.D.
Senior Advisor
Analysis Group**



"Proper fiscal stewardship of infrastructure in the face of climate impacts requires stakeholders to work together to provide transparency and accountability.

A failure to recognize and account for these costs will not only undermine the reliability of our infrastructure, it will also undermine our global economic competitiveness."

**Dr. Jesse M. Keenan
Favrot II Associate Professor of Sustainable
Real Estate and Urban Planning
Tulane University**



HIGHLIGHTS

Featured Witness: Governor John Bel Edwards

"I was taught to lead by example and from the front."



[\(Click here to view\)](#)

Featured Member: Senator Padilla

We must act to mitigate the costs of climate change wreaking havoc on US infrastructure



[\(Click here to view\)](#)

Featured Member: Senator Kaine

Investments in climate resiliency made today will protect communities from future damages



[\(Click here to view\)](#)



ONLINE BUZZ



EDF Action

@EDFaction



"Infrastructure is the foundation for our economy and enables our society to run." - @SenWhitehouse

Climate-fueled extreme weather is threatening our ability to live our lives right now. We need to invest in #ClimateResilientSystems to mitigate the worst impacts.



Gov. John Bel Edwards ✓

@LouisianaGov



Thanks to @SenWhitehouse for inviting me to testify before @SenateBudget today. Our discussion was focused on extreme weather and sea level rise driven by Climate Change, and the importance of building #ClimateResilientSystems to mitigate damage to our economy and people. #lagov



AGU Science Policy

@AGUSciPolicy



This morning members of @theAGU Science Policy and Government Relations team are attending the @SenateBudget hearing on The Fiscal Consequences of Climate Change on Infrastructure. Stay tuned for live updates 📖 or follow along live using the link 📌



Senate Budget Committee ✓

@SenateBudget



We must take action to mitigate the growing costs of climate-related damages to our water, transportation, and energy systems.
#ClimateResilientSystems



Taxpayers for Common Sense ✓

@taxpayers



(1/2) NOW @SenateBudget & @BudgetGOP are holding a hearing on the fiscal consequences of climate change on infrastructure. Watch here:

PRESS COVERAGE

US LEGISLATORS TURN TO LOUISIANA FOR EXPERIENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS TO INFRASTRUCTURE

BY: SARA CLINE, ASSOCIATED PRESS (7/26/2023)

"This summer — as blistering heat waves scorched the Southwest, wildfire smoke from Canada choked much of North America, a drought in the central U.S. devastated soybean and corn crops, and storms flooded parts of the Northeast — the perils of climate change weigh heavily across the country.

While the human toll of these extreme weather events is at the forefront, the cost burden and questions about how to prepare for the future are also being considered. Lawmakers on the U.S. Senate Committee on the Budget sat down Wednesday to discuss the fiscal impacts of climate change on the nation's infrastructure. They turned to Louisiana for its hard-earned expertise."

.....

DEMOCRATS PUSH MORE RESILIENT, LOWER-CARBON INFRASTRUCTURE AT U.S. SENATE CLIMATE HEARING

BY: JACOB FISCHLER, STATES NEWSROOM (7/26/2023)

"The changing climate is hurting infrastructure and the national economy, members of a U.S. Senate panel and experts said Wednesday.

Members of both parties on the U.S. Senate Budget Committee agreed at a Wednesday hearing on the need for more resilient infrastructure that could withstand the pressures of a changing climate. They also agreed speeding up the process for gaining federal approval for large infrastructure and energy projects would be helpful."

.....

GOV. EDWARDS DELIVERS TESTIMONY ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN WASHINGTON D.C.

BY: WFAB STAFF, WFAB (7/26/2023)

"Governor John Bel Edwards traveled to the nation's capitol Wednesday, July 26, to discuss climate change. The governor testified before the U.S. Senate Budget Committee at the Beyond the Breaking Point: The Fiscal Consequences of Climate Change on Infrastructure hearing. Edwards discussed the impacts of climate change on infrastructure."



PHOTOS

