Dear Chairman Peters, Chairman Reed, Ranking Member Portman, and Ranking Member Inhofe:

Re: Support for S. 3531, the National Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategy Act

The undersigned organizations strongly support S. 3531, the National Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategy Act.

In the last 20 years, natural disasters have caused more than $1.5 trillion in damage and economic losses across the United States. Increasing disaster costs and impacts pose a growing threat to American lives, livelihoods, infrastructure, supply chains, and military readiness. These issues must be met with whole-of-government approaches to proactively reduce risk and eliminate the siloed tendency of federal resilience programs that are contributing to ongoing project and planning challenges faced by state and local partners.

The National Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategy Act would augment federal resilience initiatives to strengthen national security and ensure that small businesses, disadvantaged communities, other localities, states, and regions have the necessary tools and coordinated funding, guidance, and support to prepare before disasters strike. The effectiveness of federal efforts would be improved by establishing a chief resilience officer within the White House that works with the interagency community and nonfederal entities to identify barriers to building smart, modern, resilient infrastructure, and opportunities to address them. Further, communities would be better able to withstand future climate threats through the development of a national strategy to improve intergovernmental coordination, incentivize funding for predisaster mitigation and resilience planning, enhance technical assistance and capacity building, and leverage nature-based solutions.

We urge Congress to take up and pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,
American Council of Engineering Companies  National Association of Counties
American Flood Coalition Action  National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies
American Planning Association  National Institute of Building Sciences
American Property Casualty Insurance Association  National League of Cities
American Public Works Association  National Recreation and Park Association
American Society of Adaptation Professionals  National Wildlife Federation
American Society of Civil Engineers  Natural Resources Defense Council
American Society of Landscape Architects  R Street Institute
ARUP  Reinsurance Association of America
BuildStrong Coalition  Resilience 21 Coalition
Center for Climate and Energy Solutions  Resilience Hub and Collaboratory Network
City Parks Alliance  Resilient Cities Network
Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers  SBP
Ecological Restoration Business Association  Smart Growth America
Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.  Smart Home America
Federal Association for Insurance Reform  SmarterSafer
Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety  Taxpayers for Common Sense
Interstate Council on Water Policy  The Nature Conservancy
Land Trust Alliance  The Pew Charitable Trusts
League of Women Voters  Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
LOCUS: Responsible Real Estate Developers & Investors  Transportation for America
Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative  U.S. Chamber of Commerce
National Association of Clean Water Agencies  Union of Concerned Scientists

cc: Members of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
cc: Members of the Senate Committee on Armed Services