

## S 531

Open Back Better Act of 2021

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Energy

**Introduced:** Mar 2, 2021

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (Mar 2, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/531>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** MN • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors

*No cosponsors are listed for this bill.*

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 2, 2021

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Energy

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 1512	Related bill	<b>Jun 30, 2022:</b> Subcommittee Hearings Held.
117 HR 1848	Related bill	<b>Jan 20, 2022:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States.
117 HR 1485	Identical bill	<b>Mar 3, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy.

### Summary (as of Mar 2, 2021)

#### Open Back Better Act of 2021

This bill directs the Department of Energy (DOE) to provide grants to federal and state agencies and tribal organizations to implement building projects that increase resiliency, energy efficiency, renewable energy, and grid integration. It also provides grants for projects that may have combined heat and power and energy storage as project components.

States must use at least 40% of grant funds to implement projects in environmental justice communities or low-income communities that have been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) pandemic.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Mar 2, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 2, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.