



February 28, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson and Democratic Leader Jeffries:

On behalf of Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions (CRES), I write today in strong support of H.R. 6544, the *Atomic Energy Advancement Act*, introduced by Representatives Jeff Duncan (R-S.C.) and Diana DeGette (D-Colo.). CRES is a non-profit dedicated to supporting conservative solutions to address our nation's energy, economic, and environmental security while ensuring America retains its global competitive edge.

Americans need reliable and affordable baseload power, making nuclear energy key with the added benefit of emitting zero carbon into the atmosphere. According to the Department of Energy, [nuclear is the largest source of clean power in the United States](#), providing completely reliable generation to 28 different states.

Nuclear energy is a win-win for ratepayers and for the climate. Therefore, maintaining our existing fleet while providing the policy framework to move into the next generation of production is paramount. The average age of existing nuclear power plants is 42 years and only two new nuclear plants have entered commercial operations since the 1990s. With promising new innovations and reactor designs in the pipeline, Congress should act to reenergize our nuclear industry to make these technologies a reality.

Earlier this month, the bill was favorably reported out of the House Energy and Commerce Committee with a strong, bipartisan vote of 47 to 2. The legislation contains provisions introduced by members on both sides of the aisle, providing a strong showing of bipartisanship to update nuclear licensing requirements, ensure a predictable regulatory environment and ultimately deploy new nuclear technology.

CRES is proud to endorse the *Atomic Energy Advancement Act* and urges a vote in favor of the bill during House consideration this week.

Sincerely,

Heather Reams
President