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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **November 7, 2026**

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Save LBI Advocacy Opposes Bill that Would Weaken Environmental Protections and Prevent Federal Agencies from Reconsidering Flawed Project Approvals.

LONG BEACH ISLAND, NJ, November 7, 2026 — Save Long Beach Island Advocacy, Inc., sister organization to Save LBI, has submitted its extensive concerns with the Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act bill to the Senate Energy Committee. The group argues that the proposed U.S. Senate bill unnecessarily fast-tracks project approvals while undermining critical environmental and public legal protections.

THE BIPARTISAN AMERICAN AFFORDABILITY AND JOBS ACT: A BAD BILL

Save LBI Advocacy strenuously opposed many provisions in this bill in its 32-page letter to members of the U.S. Senate Energy Committee. Bob Stern, the organization's President who previously managed National Environmental Policy Act affairs for the U.S. Department of Energy stated that : " the bill unnecessarily expedites project approvals at the expense of environmental and public legal protections," Stern added. "The bill would prevent courts from redressing unlawful and environmentally harmful projects stacking the judicial deck further against grass roots plaintiffs, and eviscerate 50 years of progress in establishing our environmental statutes. It would also impose arbitrary deadlines on agency staff and

restrictions on necessary analysis forcing permits forward with inadequate information and preventing agencies from reconsidering the environmental effects of those expedited, poorly decided projects."

The letter shows that the restrictions the bill imposes do not address the real causes of delay and provides statistics showing that the judicial orders the bill prevents are rarely imposed anyway so those restrictions are not necessary. The letter also notes that project delays stem more from problems in how agencies and applicants implement current law and regulations, rather than from the laws or courts themselves, and offers constructive recommendations to address those problems.

Current Senate leadership is attempting to fast track the bill through a procedural vote scheduled for November 9th that would bypass the traditional Committee process and any hearings. Save LBI Advocacy has asked our New Jersey Senators to vote against that.

Stern added that: "If the Congress truly wants to establish more certainty and continuity for energy and infrastructure projects, then rather than impose arbitrary restrictions on environmental reviews, it should pass multi-energy source energy policy legislation that is needed by the utilities, and that both Parties can agree to as Administrations change".

Save LBI Advocacy attorney Thomas Stavola, Jr. further observed: "If environmental reviews are done well, developers have nothing to fear from the courts. But it is not sound to, on one hand, expedite and limit environmental reviews and then, on the other, limit the courts from redressing poor decisions."

About Save Long Beach Island Advocacy, Inc.
Save LBI Advocacy, sister organization to Save Long Beach Island, Inc., is a non-profit, non-partisan entity dedicated to protecting the shore and ocean environment through rigorous advocacy, ensuring lawful environmental review for offshore industrial development. The alliance was created to ensure that our community has a voice when energy and environmental policy is shaped through legislation. For more information, please visit SaveLBI.org/save-lbi-advocacy.