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What Does the Inflation Reduction Act Do for State and Local Government?

The most significant climate legislation ever enacted by Congress has become law, without the word "climate" in its title. Here's how it can benefit state and local energy and climate programs.

At a White House ceremony on Tuesday, President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) into law, fulfilling one of the key promises of his campaign by committing unprecedented federal resources to the fight against climate change.

Biden called it "one of the most significant laws in our history," proof that America's soul is vibrant and its future bright. "The bill I'm about to sign is not just about today," he said. "It's about tomorrow, it's about delivering progress and prosperity to American families." The passage of the bill demonstrates that democracy still works, said Biden, not only for the privileged but for all Americans.

The IRA allocates $369 billion over 10 years for energy security and climate relief, $64 billion for extending the Affordable Care Act and $4 billion to address the water crisis in the western states. It is the largest federal investment in climate action in the country's history.

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by Carl Smith

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