

As gas prices skyrocketed, Sanford Bishop voted to limit domestic oil and gas exploration while Georgians paid record prices to fill up.

BACKUP:

On November 19, 2021, Sanford Bishop voted for H.R. 5376, the Build Back Better Act, as gas prices skyrocketed over the year before:

- On November 19, 2021, Sanford Bishop voted for H.R. 5376, the Build Back Better Act. (H.R. 5376, [Roll Call 385](#), Passed 220-213; R 0-212, D 220-1, Sanford Bishop voted Yea, 11/19/21)
- Regular unleaded gas in Georgia on November 22, 2021, cost \$3.236 compared to its year ago average of \$1.951. (AAA, [AAA Gas Prices - Georgia](#), Internet Archive from 11/22/2021)

GEORGIA AVERAGE GAS PRICES ⁱ				
	Regular	Mid-Grade	Premium	Diesel
Current Avg.	\$3.236	\$3.568	\$3.898	\$3.519
Yesterday Avg.	\$3.240	\$3.581	\$3.911	\$3.525
Week Ago Avg.	\$3.256	\$3.592	\$3.915	\$3.523
Month Ago Avg.	\$3.225	\$3.548	\$3.871	\$3.490
Year Ago Avg.	\$1.951	\$2.296	\$2.603	\$2.403

(AAA, [AAA Gas Prices - Georgia](#), Internet Archive from 11/22/2021)

The Build Back Better Act, as passed by the House on November 19, 2021, imposes increased energy costs through increased royalties on domestic energy production, blocks previously authorized energy production and future energy exploration, and could increase U.S. dependence on foreign adversaries such as Russia and China:

Editor's Note: The version of the Build Back Better Act referenced is the one that passed the House of Representatives on November 19, 2021 and has not been passed by the Senate or signed into law.

- The Build Back Better Act would raise the royalty rates for all new oil, gas, and coal leases from 12.5% to 20%, and in some cases up to 25%. “In the Build Back Better bill, minimum onshore royalty rates would be increased from 12.5% to 20%, while higher royalty rates of 16.67% would be increased to 25%. Offshore production royalties would be increased across the board from 12.5% to 20%.” (Mark Passwaters, “Biden’s Build Back Better bill would ban drilling offshore Florida, increase royalty rates,” [Upstream Online](#), 11/4/21)

- **Build Back Better would restrict the Secretary of the Interior from issuing any lease or authorization for “exploration, development, or production of oil or natural gas” in specific planning areas.** “SEC. 71301. PROTECTION OF THE EASTERN GULF, ATLANTIC, AND PACIFIC COASTS. The Secretary of the Interior may not issue a lease or any other authorization for the exploration, development, or production of oil or natural gas in any of the planning areas on the Outer Continental Shelf in the Pacific Region Planning Areas, in the Atlantic Region Planning Areas, or in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico Planning Area identified on the map entitled ‘Outer Continental Shelf Lower 48 States Planning Areas’ and dated October 18, 2021.” (Rules Committee Print 117-18, “Text of H.R. 5376 Build Back Better Act,” [Page 922](#), 11/3/21)
 - **The Build Back Better Act would block previously authorized domestic energy production in Alaska’s Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.** “The law would, if passed, repeal in its entirety the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Oil and Gas Program, cancel any leases issued pursuant to the same section of the related law, and return all payments for leases to the lessees within 30 days of enactment of the act. It also reinstates the prohibition of oil and gas leasing in certain areas of the Outer Continental Shelf, amends on and offshore fossil fuel royalty rates, and changes or introduces other fees related to fossil fuel exploration and development.” (Beth Verge, “Biden administration takes aim at ANWR in Build Back Better Act,” [Alaska’s News Source](#), 10/29/21)
 - **The Build Back Better Act would also block future domestic energy exploration efforts in the eastern Gulf of Mexico, and in areas off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.** “The measure is part of the bill’s climate-related issues and would permanently ban leasing of areas set off limits by the Gulf of Mexico Security Act of 2006, which includes the eastern Gulf of Mexico. It would also ban drilling in areas off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts currently off limits in the 2017-2022 leasing programme.” (Mark Passwaters, “Biden’s Build Back Better bill would ban drilling offshore Florida, increase royalty rates,” [Upstream Online](#), 11/4/21)
- **“In fact, the proposed methane fee alone will disincentivize domestic producers of traditional energy, add burdensome costs, and raise prices for everyday Americans while increasing our dependence on foreign adversaries for our energy needs, putting our national security at risk.”** (AAPL, “AAPL President James T. Devlin, CPL, Delivers Letter to U.S. Senators on Build Back Better Act,” [Blog](#), 12/1/21)

Gas prices in Georgia were at their highest ever recorded in June 2022:

- **Gas prices in Georgia reached record-highs in June 2022, with some stations charging up to \$5 per gallon.** “Gas prices continue to rise, and now Atlanta is seeing some stations where it’s topping \$5 per gallon. Georgia has been - at least relative to other states - more insulated from the price spikes for gasoline. Gov. Brian Kemp has kept the state gas tax suspended since March, and for other structural and regulatory reasons gas in Georgia is

not usually as expensive as in some other states. The state, with a \$4.43 per gallon average, continues to be below the national average of \$4.99 according to AAA.” (Jonathan Raymond, “Ridiculous’ | \$5 per gallon gas reaches Atlanta,” [11 Alive](#), 6/10/2022)

- Per AAA, the highest ever recorded cost of gasoline in Georgia was on June 15, 2022, at \$4.499 for regular unleaded gasoline. (AAA, [AAA Gas Prices – Georgia](#), Accessed 8/15/2022)

HIGHEST RECORDED AVERAGE PRICE		
	Price	Date
Regular Unleaded	\$4.499	6/15/22
Diesel	\$5.550	6/15/22

(AAA, [AAA Gas Prices – Georgia](#), Accessed 8/15/2022)

- As of August 15, 2022, the current average price of regular gasoline is \$3.511 compared to the year ago average of \$2.961. (AAA, [AAA Gas Prices – Georgia](#), Accessed 8/15/2022)

GEORGIA AVERAGE GAS PRICES ⁱ				
	Regular	Mid-Grade	Premium	Diesel
Current Avg.	\$3.511	\$3.910	\$4.276	\$4.755
Yesterday Avg.	\$3.520	\$3.930	\$4.298	\$4.772
Week Ago Avg.	\$3.618	\$4.019	\$4.380	\$4.876
Month Ago Avg.	\$4.090	\$4.521	\$4.862	\$5.258
Year Ago Avg.	\$2.961	\$3.308	\$3.637	\$3.147

(AAA, [AAA Gas Prices – Georgia](#), Accessed 8/15/2022)