



TALKING POINTS ON HOUSE FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE HEARINGS ON RESPONSIBLE INVESTING (ESG)

July 2023

- **The attacks on the freedom to invest this month led by MAGA Republicans on the House Financial Services Committee are desperate attempts to reward deep pocketed campaign contributors who stand to lose.** Republicans on the House Financial Services Committee have taken over \$9.6 million in contributions from the oil & gas industry, the coal industry, the tobacco industry, and gun rights organizations - [industries](#) who want to slow or stop investments in clean energy, and other issues of vital importance.
- **The public believes that successful corporations are the ones who make the right, forward-looking decisions about clean energy, climate change and gun violence - MAGA Republican attacks on responsible investing undermine these efforts.** Attacks on responsible investing are deeply unpopular. Americans do not want Congress undermining the efforts of companies focused on responsible investing. [According to recent polling](#), only 8% of Americans think investigating how companies spend money on ESG should be a priority for Congress. When compared to the [one in three Americans](#) who say the issue of guns should be a top priority for Congress and the [three-quarters of voters](#) who believe that climate change is at least a major problem, it's clear that MAGA Republicans are focused on this issue to benefit their special interests' pals.
- **The efforts to curtail responsible investments are being driven by the deep pocketed right-wing activist Leonard Leo and his shadowy network of dark money groups who are best known for stripping away rights from everyday Americans on issues ranging from voting rights to abortion.** Consumers' Research, a dark money group, has [spearheaded](#) the attacks on responsible investing. The group has received nearly \$6 million from Leo's group DonorsTrust.
- **MAGA policies enacted at the state level to ban responsible investing have already cost taxpayers millions.** [Research](#) has found that Republican efforts to target responsible investing strategies in states like Texas are costing taxpayers millions of dollars, in the form of higher payments on municipal bonds.

For the latest information, talking points, and research that exposes the reality behind Republicans' political stunts targeting the Biden Administration, visit congressionalintegrity.org.