

Big Oil is Lobbying for Immunity. Tell Congress to Protect Our Access to the Courts.

THE THREAT

- Oil and gas lobbyists are urging Congress to give fossil fuel companies **total legal immunity** from any laws or lawsuits that could hold them accountable for their role in the climate crisis.
- The American Petroleum Institute — the largest oil and gas trade lobbying group in the U.S. — **announced** that stopping state climate lawsuits and superfund laws is one of their top legislative priorities in 2026.
- Sixteen Republican attorneys general even proposed a **game plan** for how the Trump administration could help create a “liability shield” for fossil fuel companies — modeled on the **shameful 2005 law** protecting gun manufacturers from lawsuits.
- State-level immunity bills for the fossil fuel industry have already been introduced in **Utah** and **Oklahoma** as part of the larger coordinated effort to strip communities of their right to take Big Oil to court.

THE STAKES

- Communities across the country are paying nearly **\$1 trillion per year** for extreme heat, floods, wildfires, and rising seas that are becoming more intense, deadly, and destructive as a result of fossil-fueled climate change.
- **Major oil and gas companies knew** decades ago that their products would fuel these climate damages, but they orchestrated a Big Tobacco-style campaign of deception to mislead the public and protect their profits.
- **More than 1 in 4 Americans** now live in a state or community taking Big Oil companies to court to hold them accountable for this deception and make polluters pay for the harm they have caused.
- A legal shield for Big Oil could forever shut the courthouse doors for all Americans, **forcing the rising bill for climate change onto taxpayers**, and setting a harmful legal precedent that protects corporations instead of communities.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1 Call on your
Senators and House
representatives to
publicly oppose
immunity for Big Oil.

2 Share this call to
action on social
media.

3 Share this fact
sheet with your
networks.