

July 10, 2015

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chairman
Energy and Natural Resources Committee
304 Dirksen Senate Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Energy and Commerce Committee
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Energy and Natural Resources Committee
304 Dirksen Senate Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Energy and Commerce Committee
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Murkowski and Upton, Ranking Members Cantwell and Pallone:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations and associations, we thank both the House and the Senate for undertaking efforts to advance energy efficiency legislation within the context of more comprehensive legislation. As you know, energy efficiency is a critical resource and is essential to our country's energy independence. More than one-half of the energy used today to power our economy is wasted, representing an enormous energy reserve from which we can extract gains in energy productivity. To take advantage of efficiency to its fullest does require national policies and programs to ensure cost-effectiveness and efficacy.

We support several of the provisions being considered in either, or both, the House and Senate committees. As a general principle, we support those bills that help to deploy energy efficiency in the federal sphere, and across all sectors of our economy, while saving consumers and businesses money, making the United States more competitive globally. We support efforts that: 1) provide important incentives for efficiency investment, 2) set and achieve federal agency goals, and 3) facilitate market adoption and recognition of efficiency. On this basis, at a minimum, an efficiency title should:

- Include all of the provisions in S. 720/H.R. 2177, the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act of 2015.
 - In particular, we support the building code provisions in this legislation as they have been negotiated over the course of the past several years. To be clear, we support the language in S. 720/H.R. 2177 and oppose the Blackburn-Schrader language that will make it more difficult to improve building energy codes, including cost-effective building energy codes.
 - Additionally, we strongly support inclusion of the SAVE Act that will recognize the value of energy-efficiency savings in the mortgage process.
 - A 2014 ACEEE analysis found that these two provisions account for a substantial majority of the energy savings in S. 720/H.R. 2177.

- Include S. 703 – Weatherization Enhancement and Local Energy Efficiency Investment and Accountability Act. This bill would reauthorize funding for the State Energy Program and the Weatherization Assistance Program.
- Do not include language negatively impacting DOE’s ability to set appliance rules on a timely basis such as non-consensus provisions on furnaces, ceiling fans and changes to program processes. There are three decades of bipartisan history of only modifying the appliance legislation when there is a consensus among stakeholders; this precedent should continue. We are hopeful that ongoing negotiations among key stakeholders can still achieve consensus.

Other high priority provisions that we support being included in any energy efficiency title for comprehensive legislation include:

- Efforts to improve federal energy efficiency such as Energy Savings Through Public-Private Partnerships Act of 2015 (S. 858/H.R. 1629); the Energy Efficient Government Technology Act; and new energy efficiency goals for the Federal government (as in S. 720/H.R. 2177)
- S. 893 – Energy Productivity Innovation Challenge Act of 2015 (EPIC)
- S. 1044/H.R. 1930 – Access to Consumer Energy Information

There are several other provisions that we understand are being considered for an efficiency title, which enjoy the support of several of our companies and organizations. These include provisions such as loans for residential energy efficiency (S. 878), benchmarking (S. 1052), smart buildings (S. 1046/H.R. 2564), smart manufacturing (S. 1054), grid integration (S. 102), the HEAT Act (S. 1202) the HOMES Act (H.R. 2073), the PREPARE Act (S. 888), the Energy Star program integrity bills (H.R. 504/S. 1038) and all of the other provisions that are included in S. 720/H.R. 2177.

We appreciate your continued leadership on energy efficiency policy.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Alliance to Save Energy

Alliance for Industrial Efficiency

American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

Association of Energy Engineers (AEE)

American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Armstrong Filtration

AEC Science & Technology, LLC

ASHRAE

Center for Small Business and the Environment

Efficiency First

Energy Future Coalition

Environmental and Energy Study Institute

Green Builder LLC

Hankins and Anderson, Inc.

Home Performance Coalition

Institute for Market Transformation

International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO)

Malachite LLC

National Association of Energy Service Companies

National Association of State Energy Officials

North American Insulation Manufacturers Association

National Insulation Association (NIA)

Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association (PIMA)

Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association (SMACNA)

SUN DAY Campaign

Water Quality Association