



Ross Eisenberg
Vice President
Energy and Resources Policy

April 29, 2015

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chairman
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Cantwell:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing small and large manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, applauds the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for its dedication to bipartisan measures that promote the adoption of energy efficient products and technologies in industrial, commercial, residential and federal government sectors. Energy efficiency and conservation offer immediate and cost-effective opportunities to reduce energy costs. Manufacturers produce the equipment, technologies, and supplies used to upgrade the energy efficiency of our buildings and products. We believe by expanding the use of energy efficient equipment and technologies we will reduce energy demand and improve our nation's energy security.

The NAM supports many of the energy efficiency measures introduced by members of the Committee and scheduled for discussion at this week's hearing. While not meant to be exhaustive, manufacturers would like to express support for the following bills:

- S. 720, the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act of 2015, introduced by Sens. Rob Portman (R-OH) and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH). This bill, the subject of many years of refinement and negotiation, would provide energy savings through stronger building codes, better energy information in commercial and residential buildings, and a focused set of industrial energy efficiency policies designed to accelerate the development, demonstration and deployment of technologies that will increase energy efficiency and improve productivity. S. 720 also contains the provisions of the Sensible Accounting to Value Energy (SAVE) Act, a NAM-supported measure that would provide homeowners better information on the energy cost of their home when obtaining mortgage financing.
- S. 723, the Utility Energy Service Contracts Improvement Act of 2015, introduced by Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI), and S. 858, the Energy Savings Through Public-Private Partnerships Act of 2015, introduced by Sen. Cory Gardner (R-CO), which would promote the use of performance contracting to perform energy efficient retrofits in federal buildings. Manufacturers strongly support the use of performance contracts, a

proven tool to save energy, improve infrastructure, reduce operating expenses and decrease emissions with no upfront costs to the government or taxpayers. An NAM 2013 report determined that within the first two years of the Energy Savings and Performance-Based Contracting Investment Initiative \$1.3 billion worth of projects had been awarded, and another \$1 billion worth of projects were in various stages with jobs being created across the manufacturing supply chain as a result.

- S. 1038, the Energy Star Program Integrity Act, introduced by Sen. Jim Risch (R-ID). Manufacturers actively value and participate in the Energy Star program, but could be dissuaded from future Energy Star participation by a gap in the law that has given rise to private lawsuits over products that fall out of compliance with the program. These lawsuits seek to impose damages above and beyond the penalties already imposed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which administers the program. S. 1038 clarifies that no express or implied warranty is provided by reason of a disclosure relating to voluntary participation in the Energy Star program, maintaining consumer protection through existing EPA oversight while eliminating the threat of frivolous legal action against manufacturers.
- S. 1047, introduced by Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN), a bill that would eliminate the conflicts and overlaps between the EPA's recently-proposed rule delisting certain hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) from the Significant New Alternative Policy (SNAP) program and the product design cycles required by Department of Energy (DOE) energy efficiency standards. Manufacturers have called on the EPA to align its SNAP rule with the supply and availability of replacement products and finished goods manufacturers' ability to make the necessary design changes to incorporate the rule's requirements with those of other laws and other agencies. S. 1047 would eliminate many of these conflicts.

Manufacturers are committed to reducing our energy intensity and producing more energy efficient buildings and consumer products to help reduce the U.S. demand for energy, save money, lower costs and lessen greenhouse gas emissions. A wide range of cost-effective energy-efficient technologies produced by manufacturers are readily available today. Greater product implementation means job growth in manufacturing. The NAM looks forward to working with the Committee to advance these and other energy efficiency measures in the 114th Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ross Eisenberg".

Ross Eisenberg
Vice President
Energy and Resources Policy

Cc: Members of the Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources