

BRETT GUTHRIE, KENTUCKY
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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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October 6, 2025

Mr. Ben Lieberman
Senior Fellow
Competitive Enterprise Institute
1310 L Street NW
7th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Lieberman:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, to testify at the hearing entitled “Building the American Dream: Examining Affordability, Choice, and Security in Appliance and Buildings Policies.”

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Tuesday, October 21, 2025. Your responses should be mailed to Calvin Huggins Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed to Calvin.Huggins1@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert E. Latta". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Latta" being more legible than the middle initial "E".

Robert E. Latta
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy

cc: Kathy Castor, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy

Attachment

Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Brett Guthrie (R-KY)

1. In Kentucky, homeowners using gas for heating save \$610 annually as compared to all-electric alternatives, and the state has protected energy choice in statute. What happens to costs, whether reflected in utility bills or appliance prices, when a consumer's energy choice is prioritized?

The Honorable Randy Weber (R-TX)

1. How important is it to consider a consumer's return on investment when developing appliance energy efficiency standards?
2. What EPCA reforms are needed to ensure that future standards are technologically feasible and economically justified?
3. What are your thoughts on revising certain definitions to base them on full fuel cycle calculations rather than site-based energy?

The Honorable Julie Fedorchak (R-ND)

1. You observed that DOE is effectively using appliance regulations to discourage natural gas use at home; for instance, proposing standards that hit gas stoves harder in favor of electric versions. This is despite EPCA's clear prohibition on forced fuel switching.
 - a. How do such anti-gas regulatory moves impact consumer utility bills and choice?
 - b. In your opinion, should Congress step in to reinforce fuel neutrality, making sure the choice between gas or electric appliances rests with homeowners and the marketplace, not with bureaucrats pursuing climate agendas?
2. You highlighted how multiple rounds of federal efficiency rules have compromised appliance performance, noting for example that modern dishwashers now take "two or more hours to complete a normal cycle, double the time it took before regulations."
 - a. What does it say about regulatory overreach when Americans must endure appliances that are slower or less effective in the name of efficiency, and how should Congress address rules that reduce people's standard of living?