

June 14, 2018

The Honorable John Shimkus
Chairman
House Subcommittee on Environment
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Paul Tonko
Ranking Member
House Subcommittee on Environment
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Shimkus and Ranking Member Tonko:

The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) Coalition comprises a diverse group of trade associations and companies impacted by the CFATS regulations. Coalition members represent major sectors of the American economy, including chemical production, chemical distribution and storage, manufacturing, oil and gas refining, utilities, mining, and agricultural goods and services. The businesses we represent are vital to the American economy. A multi-year reauthorization would provide our industries with the regulatory certainty we need to efficiently meet compliance requirements and enable the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to effectively run the CFATS program.

The CFATS Coalition requests that you make multi-year reauthorization of CFATS an immediate priority in your committee. The current CFATS authorization will sunset in January 2019. With a full congressional calendar in 2018, it is critical for your committee to take up CFATS reauthorization legislation as soon as possible so it can proceed to the full U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives for consideration and approval.

The CFATS program has focused our industries on security, helping to make our nation more secure. Since its establishment in 2007, our industries have invested millions of dollars and instituted thousands of new security measures at our facilities. The “Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act” of 2014 (P.L. 113-254), which for the first time provided CFATS a multi-year authorization, further enhanced these efforts by providing regulatory certainty to both industry and DHS. This stability allowed DHS to increase efficiencies in the program while streamlining the information submission process for regulated facilities.

A multi-year reauthorization of CFATS in the next few months would allow for the continuation of this positive momentum. We urge you to move CFATS reauthorization through the legislative process as soon as possible. Doing so will enhance the security of our products, our people, and our nation.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Retailers Association
American Chemistry Council
American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers
American Gas Association
American Petroleum Institute
Institute of Makers of Explosives
International Liquid Terminals Association
Interstate Natural Gas Association of America

National Association of Chemical Distributors
National Association of Manufacturers
National Mining Association
Society of Chemical Manufacturers & Affiliates
The Fertilizer Institute

cc: The Honorable Greg Walden, Chairman, House Committee on Energy and Commerce
The Honorable Frank Pallone, Ranking Member, House Committee on Energy and Commerce