



National Electrical Manufacturers Association

The Association of Electrical Equipment and
Medical Imaging Manufacturers
www.nema.org

May 22, 2019

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr., Chairman
The Honorable Greg Walden, Ranking Member
House Energy and Commerce Committee
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member Walden:

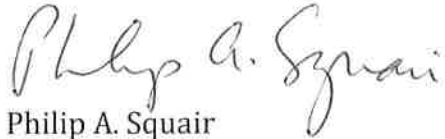
On behalf of its members, the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) submits this letter for the record for the Committee hearing entitled “LIFT America: Modernizing our Infrastructure for the Future.” NEMA is the national trade association representing nearly 350 electrical and medical imaging manufacturers that make the equipment used in a variety of infrastructure sectors—buildings, electric utilities, industrial, and transportation.

One of NEMA’s top advocacy priorities is to enact new or revised programs that improve our nation’s energy infrastructure. And so, we commend you and your colleagues for holding a hearing on H.R. 2741, the LIFT America Act, making significant improvements in this area. The legislation touches virtually every aspect of our nation’s energy infrastructure, from the electrical grid to electric vehicle charging. NEMA and its members support H.R.2741, but as the committee process moves forward, we recommend adding the following additional provisions that will further improve our energy infrastructure:

- 1). Improve energy efficiency at the nation’s industrial and manufacturing plants by providing incentives for companies to upgrade their equipment with the latest electric motors and control equipment, which will help them reduce their energy footprint and reduce their costs and make them more competitive in the marketplace.
- 2). Build upon federal energy efficiency improvements by setting additional firm energy reduction goals for federal buildings and setting goals to transform federal vehicle fleets over to electric vehicles. Congress should set aggressive goals that can help show state, local governments, and the rest of the nation a way forward in this area.
- 3). Offer incentives for transmission upgrades to right-size transmission lines (e.g., direct loans or loan guarantees) to project developers to add capacity to transmission lines before there are customers to fill that capacity, which will help future-proof the electric grid.
- 4). Take additional steps to convert our vehicle transportation system to electricity, such as seaports and airports.

NEMA is supportive of your efforts to address many of the issues facing our nation's energy infrastructure, and we would welcome additional opportunities to discuss the ideas mentioned in this letter and any technical corrections that may arise as the bill moves forward. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Philip A. Squair". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Philip A. Squair
Vice President, Government Relations