

March 22, 2017

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and
Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and
Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Greg Walden
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairwoman Murkowski, Ranking Member Cantwell, Chairman Walden, and Ranking Member Pallone:

America's insulation manufacturers, distributors and installation contractors strongly support policies that promote energy efficiency. We are writing to express our support for companion legislation titled "the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act of 2017" – S 385 authored by Senators Portman (R-OH) and Shaheen (D-NH) and H.R. 1443 authored by Representatives McKinley (R-WV) and Welch (D-VT).

This bipartisan legislation promotes economic growth and competitiveness, and enhances energy security. It also reduces government spending by addressing energy savings in the federal government – the nation's largest energy consumer – and includes provisions that expand energy efficiency savings and benefits to all sectors of the U.S. economy. We support this legislation because it includes the following policies that improve energy efficiency in U.S. homes, commercial buildings and industrial facilities:

Buildings: The bill strengthens the national model for building energy codes to make new homes and commercial buildings more energy efficient while working with states and private industry to make the code-writing process more transparent.

Manufacturing: The bill boosts the U.S. manufacturing sector's competitive edge – a primary goal of Congress and the Administration. The bill directs DOE to work with private-sector partners to encourage the research, development and commercialization of innovative energy efficient technology. Significantly, the legislation creates a SupplySTAR program at DOE to promote best practices and recognize companies and products that use highly efficient supply chains.

Federal Government: The bill cuts federal spending by reducing energy use throughout the federal government – the largest single energy user in the country.

Schools: A common-sense provision helps schools invest in energy efficiency upgrades – saving more than \$2 billion in local tax dollars and freeing up money in local schools budgets. The bill tasks DOE to improve coordination for existing federal energy efficiency programs available to schools and provide guidance on financing options.

Federal Green Buildings: The bill ensures that the green building ratings systems used by GSA do not exclude certain building materials. It requires DOE to conduct an ongoing review into private sector green building certification systems and to work with other agencies to determine which certification systems encourage the most comprehensive and environmentally sound approach to certifying buildings.

Energy Efficiency and Home Mortgages: The bill requires federal mortgage agencies to include energy efficiency as a factor in determining the value and affordability of a home. These provisions were included in the SAVE Act, introduced last Congress by Senators Isakson (R-GA) and Bennet (D-CO).

The use of insulation in U.S. homes and businesses saves energy, putting more money in the pockets of families and business owners. It also provides a cost effective solution to reducing toxic air emissions and greenhouse gases. Because the benefits of energy efficiency are so substantial, we encourage you to bring S. 385 and H.R. 1443 up for consideration and a vote before your respective committees at the earliest possible time.

Sincerely,

ACC Center for the Polyurethanes Industry
Accella Performance Materials BASF
Corporation
Cellulose Insulation Manufacturers
Association
CertainTeed
Carlisle Construction Materials
DAP Foam, Incorporated
Dow
Extruded Polystyrene Foam Association
Gaco Western LLC
General Coatings Manufacturing Corp.
Huntsman Corporation
Insulate America
Insulated Building Products

Insulation Contractors Association of
America
Johns Manville
Knauf Insulation
National Insulation Association
National Insulation Contractors' Exchange
North American Insulation Manufacturers
Association
Owens Corning
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers
Association
Roxul
Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance
TopBuild