

September 11, 2019

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Joe Manchin
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Support for the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act of 2019 (S. 2137 and H.R. 3962)

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

We, the undersigned, represent a broad coalition of states, energy efficiency organizations, businesses, builders, trade associations, and public interest groups writing to express our support for the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act of 2019 (S. 2137 and H.R. 3962).¹ These bills are more colloquially known by the names of their respective sponsors: “Portman-Shaheen” and “Welch-McKinley.” These identical bills would save energy and reduce costs for families and businesses, create jobs and promote economic growth, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants. We urge your support for these bills and encourage you to bring S. 2137 and H.R. 3962 up for consideration and a vote before your respective committees at the earliest possible time.

These bipartisan bills include provisions that would improve U.S. energy productivity, expand energy efficiency savings and benefits across the economy, and seize opportunities to reduce the energy and water consumption of the federal government. Passage of this legislation would create jobs in local economies across the country and lower energy costs—year after year—for American households. More specifically, Portman-Shaheen and Welch-McKinley would create a national strategy to increase the use of energy efficiency through a model building energy code; promote the cost-effective implementation of building energy codes; help ensure homeowners can realize a return on investment for energy efficiency upgrades by updating mortgage rules to account for the value of energy savings; re-establish forward-looking energy and water consumption targets for federal agencies; encourage strategic planning to meet sustainability goals; promote public-private partnerships to implement energy and water conservation measures; streamline information to support the deployment of energy-efficient technologies in schools; improve commercial building efficiency; and set forth a number of other policies and initiatives.

Energy efficiency is the quickest, cheapest, and cleanest way to reduce costs and greenhouse gas emissions. It also represents an important engine of economic growth in the energy sector. More than

¹ [S. 2137](#), the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act of 2019, was introduced by Senators Rob Portman (R-Ohio) and Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.) on July 17, 2019. [H.R. 3962](#), which has the same short title, was introduced by Representatives Peter Welch (D-Vt.) and David McKinley (R-W.Va.) on July 26, 2019.

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2.3 million Americans hold energy efficiency jobs, representing over one-third of the total energy sector workforce.² Moreover, energy efficiency policies offer Americans protection from rising energy costs caused by instability overseas and move us toward greater energy security.

These bills have bipartisan support and provide an opportunity for Congress to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while spurring economic growth and creating jobs. We respectfully urge you to support these bipartisan bills and bring S. 2137 and H.R. 3962 up for committee consideration at the first opportunity during this session of the 116th Congress.

Sincerely,

Acuity Brands
Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute
Alliance for Industrial Efficiency
Alliance to Save Energy
Ameresco
American Chemistry Council
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
Association of Energy Engineers
Building Performance Association
Business Council for Sustainable Energy
Consumer Technology Association
Covestro LLC
Danfoss
DuPont
E4TheFuture
Federal Performance Contracting Coalition
Illuminating Engineering Society
Ingersoll Rand
Institute for Market Transformation
Johns Manville
Johnson Controls, Inc.
Knauf Insulation
Legrand
National Association of Energy Service Companies
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of State Energy Officials
Natural Resources Defense Council
North American Insulation Manufacturers Association
Owens Corning
Pearl Certification
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association
Schneider Electric
Siemens Corporation USA

² National Association of State Energy Officials and Energy Futures Initiative. The 2019 U.S. Energy & Employment Report. Available at: <https://www.usenergyjobs.org/>

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Signify
The Stella Group, Ltd.
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Chairman and Ranking Member, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Budget
Chairwoman and Ranking Member, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Financial
Services
Chairman and Ranking Member, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform
Chairwoman and Ranking Member, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science,
Space, and Technology
Chairman and Ranking Member, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure