



Using less. Doing more.

May 5, 2014

Dear Senator:

The Alliance to Save Energy strongly supports S. 2262, the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act, also known as Shaheen-Portman. When the bill comes to the floor this week, the Alliance urges you to vote for cloture and to vote for the underlying bill.

Energy efficiency is the quickest, cheapest, and cleanest way to reduce domestic energy consumption. Well-designed programs such as those contained in the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act will help American families and businesses lower their energy costs. Moreover, energy efficiency policies offer Americans protection from rising energy costs caused by political instability abroad, and move us towards greater energy security.

This bipartisan bill addresses 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, from schools and homes, to commercial buildings, industry, and manufacturing.

More specifically, Shaheen-Portman contains provisions that will create a national strategy to increase the use of energy efficiency through a model building energy code; promote the development of energy efficient supply-chains for companies; encourage the federal government to adopt and implement energy saving policies and programs; improve federal data center efficiency; support the deployment of energy efficient technologies in schools; improve commercial building efficiency; and promote the benchmarking and disclosure of buildings’ energy use, among a number of other initiatives.

Rather than squandering taxpayers’ dollars on needless energy costs, S. 2262 implements practical, cost effective measures to tackle federal energy consumption, while creating jobs and reducing emissions. It is estimated that by 2030, Shaheen-Portman will create more than 190,000 jobs, save consumers \$16 billion a year, and cut carbon dioxide emissions by the equivalent of taking 22 million cars off the road.

The American public wants bipartisan policies that will spur economic growth and create jobs. There is consensus that efficiency is the cheapest and fastest way to start reducing demand for the energy we currently use. We believe the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act represents our best chance to improve our demand-side energy policy.

Again, we urge you to vote for cloture and to vote for the underlying bill so that Americans can begin reaping the many benefits of energy efficiency. If you have any questions or need more background information, please have your staff contact Elizabeth Tate at the Alliance to Save Energy at (202) 530-4345 or etate@ase.org.

Sincerely,

Kateri Callahan
President, Alliance to Save Energy

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