



Shaping Tomorrow's Built Environment Today

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January 8, 2020

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Chairman
Committee on Energy & Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy & Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Paul Tonko
Chairman
Environment and Climate Change Subcommittee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Shimkus
Ranking Member
Environment and Climate Change Subcommittee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone, Ranking Member Walden, Chairman Tonko, and Ranking Member Shimkus:

On behalf of ASHRAE, I am writing to express ASHRAE's support for the goals of H.R. 5544, *The American Innovation and Manufacturing Leadership Act of 2020*.

ASHRAE, founded in 1894 and headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, is a global society advancing human well-being through sustainable technology for the built environment. The Society and its more than 57,000 members worldwide focus on building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration and sustainability. Through research, standards writing, publishing, certification and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's built environment today.

ASHRAE believes *The American Innovation and Manufacturing Leadership Act of 2020* provides necessary support for the HVACR sector, which employs 1.3 million people in the U.S., in the transition out of high-polluting hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and into next generation refrigerant technologies. This transition is still in its early stages, and if enacted and implemented in the coming year, *The American Innovation and Manufacturing Leadership Act of 2020* will provide the kind of regulatory certainty and market stability needed to ensure an orderly transition from certain high-polluting HFCs.

Billions of dollars have been invested in research and development to create and safely handle new and innovative refrigeration products and equipment. The international market for refrigeration and air conditioning is growing rapidly, and an orderly transition out of high-polluting HFCs is essential to ensuring that next generation products and equipment can be brought to market.

The American Innovation and Manufacturing Leadership Act of 2020 is based on the same kind of federal regulatory structure that guided earlier transitions out of older classes of fluorocarbon compounds, such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), in the 1990s. That federal framework prioritized innovation and insulated consumers from the kind of market turbulence that could accompany a chaotic and otherwise disorderly transition. We anticipate that similarly *The American Innovation and Manufacturing Leadership Act of 2020* will provide the federal regulatory structure necessary to make an orderly transition from high-polluting HFCs.

ASHRAE respectfully urges thoughtful consideration of *The American Innovation and Manufacturing Leadership Act of 2020*. ASHRAE would also be pleased to provide any technical assistance on this legislation or other aspects of refrigerants and HVACR technology and systems. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff contact ASHRAE at GovAffairs@ashrae.org. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Darryl Boyce', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Darryl Boyce, P. Eng., FASHRAE
ASHRAE President, SY2019-20