

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman
Chairman
Energy and Natural Resources Committee
304 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Ranking Member

Dear Chairman Bingaman and Ranking Member Murkowski,

We the undersigned represent a broad-based coalition of energy efficiency and environmental organizations, small and large businesses, and public interest organizations throughout New Hampshire. We are writing to express our support for the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act of 2011, S. 1000.

New Hampshire's tradition of ingenuity and innovation, coupled with our economic strength and resilience, position our state to be a leader in developing and making use of energy efficiency. The Shaheen-Portman legislation will enable New Hampshire businesses to grow and create jobs, provide for critical savings to families, and implement practical, cost saving provisions that we as New Hampshire citizens can all support. Further, the bill will help make us more competitive globally and reduce our dependence on imported sources of energy. We look forward to working with you in the coming months to see that this important legislation is enacted into law.

We specifically commend those provisions in the bill that will help to drive job creation. For example, the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act will include a state partnership manufacturing revolving loan fund to finance investments in manufacturing process equipment and efficiency improvements to cut energy consumption and boost productivity. With this fund, New Hampshire manufacturers can fine-tune their equipment, reduce their utility bills, and strengthen their bottom-lines.

The legislation would also advance targets for national model building energy codes. Buildings currently consume 40% of all energy used in the United States. The Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act would support regular updates to the existing national model building codes. Building codes help investors overcome the market barriers that impede energy savings in this sector and reduce energy costs for businesses.

Similarly, appliance standards provisions contained within the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act are projected to cut home energy costs to consumers by \$43 billion annually by 2030.¹ Existing federal appliance standards have saved taxpayers more than \$300 billion in energy bills and reduced national energy use by 3.6% annually.

The Shaheen-Portman bill also contains a provision based on the Rural Star legislation which was passed by the House of Representatives last year. This program would create a loan program through rural public utilities and electric cooperatives to finance energy efficiency improvements for rural utility

¹ American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy & Appliance Standards Awareness Project, Appliance and Equipment Efficiency Standards: A Money Maker and Job Creator. January 2011. <http://www.standardsasap.org/documents/A111.pdf>

customers. For New Hampshire's rural residents, and especially those in the northern part of our state, these improvements and savings are crucial for the cold winter months as energy costs skyrocket. The program is modeled after the New Hampshire Electric Co-op's *SmartSTART* program, which has cut participating customers' monthly electricity bill by one-third.

Another important bill from last session, Supply Star, is also included in the bill. Supply Star would promote energy efficiency improvements throughout the supply chain, including savings from product sourcing, development, distribution, use and disposal. This bill would provide crucial support to small businesses in reducing unnecessary energy expenditures.

As the nation's largest energy consumer, it is critically important that the federal government lead by example. The Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act contains several provisions which will improve the energy efficiency of federal agencies. Rather than spending taxpayer's dollars on energy costs, the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act implements practical, cost effective measures to tackle federal energy consumption. These provisions include personal computer power saving techniques, advanced metering, building upgrades and more.

By fully deploying the power of energy efficiency throughout New Hampshire and the nation, we can help create new jobs, and save energy and money. Energy efficiency takes effect faster than other policies designed to address our energy needs. Well designed programs such as those contained in the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act will help those New Hampshire families and businesses who are struggling today to lower their energy costs. Moreover, energy efficiency policies offer protection from rising energy costs caused by political instability abroad and move us toward energy independence.

We appreciate your efforts thus far to hold a hearing on the legislation and offer our support in helping to advance this important bill toward enactment in the 112th Congress.

Sincerely,

Warner Power
NH Manufacturing Extension Partnership
WoodPellets.com
Eastern Mountain Sports
Revolution Energy
GT Solar
NH Environmental Guild
Unitil
Rob Pickett and Associates
NH Department of Resources and Economic Development

Sullivan Construction
Dawn Solar
Northland Forest Products
ARC Energy

RE/Max Legacy
Clean Power Development
New Hampshire Electric Co-op
W.H. Bagshaw Co., Inc.
Mountain View Grand Resort and Spa
KW Management Inc.
Segway Inc.
North American Equipment Upfitters Inc.
Spire Semiconductor
Nanocomp Technologies, Inc.
New Hampshire High Technology Council
Project Resource Group, LLC
Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce
Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce
BAE Systems
Turn Cycle Solutions
Visions Kitchens and Design
Oak Point Associates
The Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire
New Hampshire Sustainable Energy Association
FlexEnergy
Bosch Thermotechnology NA
Raytheon Company
Autodesk, Inc.
Filtrine Manufacturing Company