



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

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January 8, 2020

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Committee on Environment & Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thomas Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment & Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

On behalf of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), I am writing to express ASHRAE's support for S. 2754, *The American Innovation and Manufacturing Act of 2019* (AIM Act).

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 AIM Act 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 AIM Act 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 research and development to create and safely handle new and innovative products and equipment. The international market for refrigeration and air conditioning is growing rapidly, and an orderly transition out of HFCs is essential to ensuring that next generation products and equipment can be brought to market.

The AIM Act 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 AIM Act will provide the federal regulatory structure necessary to make an orderly transition from high-polluting HFCs.

ASHRAE respectfully urges thoughtful consideration of the AIM Act. 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", followed by a horizontal line and a small dash.

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