



Ross E. Eisenberg

Vice President

Energy & Resources Policy

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U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing small and large manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to support the H.R. 8, the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015 from Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI).

H.R. 8 ensures that the free hand of the marketplace, rather than bureaucratic inertia, governs international trade by providing a 30-day deadline on the Department of Energy (DOE) to approve or deny pending liquefied natural gas (LNG) export applications. It does not impact the economic, environmental or safety studies that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and other agencies are required to conduct, nor does it remove any other regulatory requirement. It protects against prolonged regulatory delays that would run afoul of our international obligations under the World Trade Organization. H.R. 8 would provide a clear resolution to the outstanding questions surrounding regulatory approval of the infrastructure necessary to allow the export of a product—a principle that manufacturers support.

H.R. 8 also requires FERC to perform reliability analyses for major federal regulations that impact electric utilities. As users of one-third of the nation's energy, manufacturers depend on a consistent, reliable stream of electricity to power their operations. Several recent regulations that limit fuel choice or force early retirements of electric utilities were issued without sufficient analysis of the impact on electric reliability. H.R. 8 improves the regulatory process by requiring FERC to perform such an analysis.

H.R. 8 provides tools for the federal government to improve the energy efficiency of federal buildings. Manufacturers produce the equipment, technologies, and supplies used to upgrade the energy efficiency of our buildings and products. Manufacturers believe by expanding the use of energy efficient equipment and technologies, demand will be reduced and our nation's energy security improved.

Finally, H.R. 8 closes a gap in the law governing the Energy Star program that has given rise to private lawsuits over products that fall out of compliance with the program. These lawsuits seek to impose damages above and beyond the penalties already imposed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which administers the program. Manufacturers actively value and participate in the Energy Star program, but could be dissuaded from future Energy Star participation if this gap in the law is not closed. H.R. 8 clarifies that no express or implied warranty is provided by reason of a disclosure relating to voluntary participation in the Energy Star program, maintaining consumer protection through existing EPA oversight while eliminating the threat of frivolous legal action against manufacturers. Manufacturers support this provision of H.R. 8 and oppose any amendments to weaken or remove it.

The NAM urges you to vote in support of H.R. 8 to improve American energy and infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Ross Eisenberg
Vice President
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