

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0506**

January 12, 2024

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Chair  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
128-S The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chairwoman  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins  
Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
128-S The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Murray, Chair Granger, Vice Chair Collins, and Ranking Member DeLauro,

As Congress works to come to an agreement on appropriations for fiscal year 2024, we write to oppose provisions in H.R. 4394, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024, that would diminish the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) authority to set energy conservation standards for a range of appliances. When the House of Representatives enters conference negotiations with our counterparts in the Senate on fiscal year 2024 appropriations, these provisions should not be part of the final agreement.

With initial standards enacted in 1987, national energy and water efficiency standards ensure that technological innovations that improve efficiency and save consumers and businesses money show up in the everyday products we rely on to keep our food cold, clean our clothes, stay warm when it's cold out, cool when it's hot out and much, much more. Federal law requires DOE to periodically review existing product standards to determine whether an update that would save a significant amount of energy or water would be technologically feasible and economically justified. By ensuring that standards are up-to-date, we can save money and energy while also ensuring that consumers have a wide range of top-performing choices that suit them.

**As a result of standards in effect today, the average American household saves approximately \$500 annually on utility bills. Those savings will continue to grow so long as DOE updates standards. DOE projects that new efficiency standards adopted under this administration can provide nearly \$1 trillion in additional consumer savings over 30 years.**

These savings are particularly beneficial to low- and moderate-income households, which expend disproportionate shares of their income on energy bills. Standards also are a boon to renters, as they are often not responsible for selecting their appliances and yet bear the utility bill burdens. Three in five Americans support strengthened standards, according to a poll published by Morning Consult this spring.

**If Congress reversed or halted energy conservation standards, Americans would lose money, our energy and national security would suffer, and more pollution would warm our climate and harm public health.**

**It would also create uncertainty for businesses that produce these products, putting jobs making efficient appliances and equipment at risk.**

For these reasons, we oppose the following prohibitions and cuts to funding for DOE's Appliance and Equipment Standards Program included in H.R. 4394:

- Title III: DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) – Reduction in annual appropriations by \$466 million. A Manager's Amendment offered by Rep. Fleischmann was considered adopted by the House Rules Committee before the bill reached the floor; it would cut EERE's budget by a further \$1 billion.
- Section 307: Prohibits activities related to energy efficiency standards for distribution transformers.
- Section 317: Prohibits activities related to energy conservation standards for gas kitchen ranges and ovens.
- Section 615 ([H.Amdt.505](#)): Prohibits the use of funds to finalize, implement, or enforce DOE's proposed furnace standard.
- Section 617 ([H.Amdt.510](#)): Prohibits the use of funds to finalize, implement, or enforce DOE's proposed water heater standard.
- Section 626 ([H.Amdt.523](#)): Prohibits the use of funds to finalize DOE's proposed automatic commercial ice maker standard.
- Section 627 ([H.Amdt.524](#)): Prohibits the use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce DOE's room air conditioner standard.

Energy efficiency ensures safe, reliable, and affordable energy to Americans now and in the future. We should not forgo investment in this policy tool which has generated benefits for decades across many technologies and continues to deliver returns today.

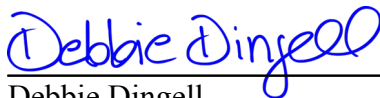
Thank you for your consideration of these important requests.

Sincerely,



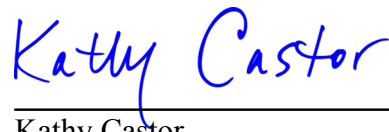
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Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



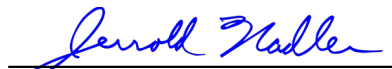
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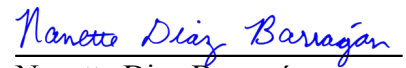
Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress





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Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress

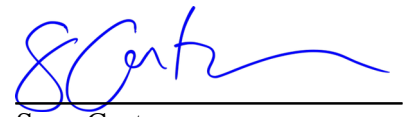
  
Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress

  
Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress


  
Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress


  
Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress

  
Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress

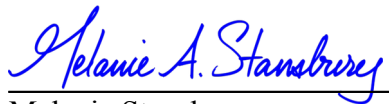
  
Sean Casten  
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Katie Porter  
Member of Congress

  
Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress

  
Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress

  
Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress



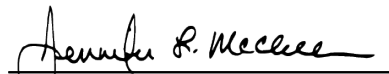
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Melanie Stansbury  
Member of Congress



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Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



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Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



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Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



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Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



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Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



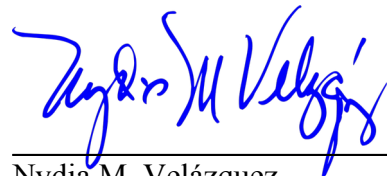
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Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Member of Congress



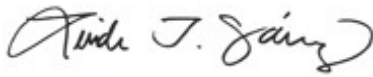
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Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



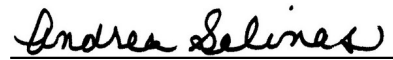
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Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



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Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



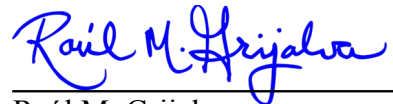
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Andrea Salinas  
Member of Congress



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Summer Lee  
Member of Congress



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Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



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Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



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Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



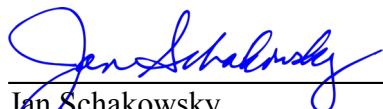
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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



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Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress




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Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



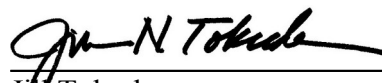
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Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



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Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



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Jim Tokuda  
Member of Congress



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Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



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Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



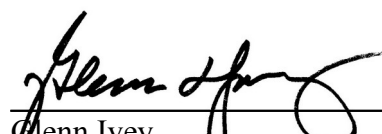
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Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



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Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



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Glenn Ivey  
Member of Congress



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Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress




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Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



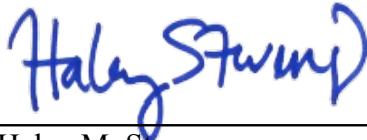
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Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



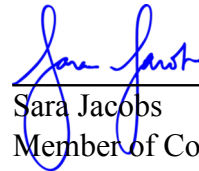
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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



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Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



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Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



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Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress