

April 9, 2026

The Honorable Susan Collins, Chair
The Honorable Patty Murray, Ranking
Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, Chair
The Honorable Jeff Merkley, Ranking
Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior,
Environment & Related Agencies
United States Senate

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito, Chair
The Honorable Tammy Baldwin, Ranking
Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and Education
& Related Agencies
United States Senate

The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Chair
The Honorable Chris Coons, Ranking
Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense
United States Senate

The Honorable Tom Cole, Chair
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Ranking
Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Mike Simpson, Chair
The Honorable Chellie Pingree, Ranking
Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior,
Environment & Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Robert Aderholt, Chair
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Ranking
Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, Education &
Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Ken Calvert, Chair
The Honorable Betty McCollum, Ranking
Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairs and Ranking Members:

We, the undersigned organizations, write to urge you to support robust indoor air quality (IAQ) investments in critical programs across the U.S. government. People spend 90% of their time indoors, and poor air quality is linked to a wide range of health issues, including respiratory illnesses, heart disease, lung cancer, and neurological conditions.¹ Mitigating the long-term health effects of indoor air pollution protects Americans and reduces healthcare burdens on families and the economy. Clean indoor air reduces sick leave, increases productivity, and improves learning outcomes, leading to increased economic growth. In fact, it is estimated that the U.S. economy could gain \$26 billion annually with improved indoor air quality due to a 35% decrease in sick leave.²

The fiscal year 2027 requests below support improved indoor air quality in homes, schools, and workplaces, resulting in lower healthcare costs and improved economic productivity.

EPA- Office of Radiation and Indoor Air (ORIA)

This office at EPA has provided vital technical information to communities to reduce health risks from pollutants in indoor environments. When wildfires hit communities, ORIA acts quickly to disseminate information to states and tribes to help communities protect themselves from wildland fire smoke. When public health emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic struck, ORIA provided vital information to schools, businesses, and families so that they could stay safe and continue living their lives. To keep kids in school and reduce health care costs, ORIA provides vital information to reduce asthma and flu cases. The technical resources ORIA distributes save lives, keep health care costs down, and support the economy.

Funding:

\$26.852M

Report Language

Indoor Air and Radiation. —The Committee recommends \$26,852,000 for Indoor Air and Radiation. The Committee encourages the Agency to continue indoor air efforts in order to address wildfire smoke, extreme heat, and other indoor environmental quality hazards. The Committee recognizes the importance of safe and healthy learning environments which include access to clean indoor air. The Committee supports the Agency's Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools program and the ongoing grant programs to improve indoor environmental quality in schools. Within available funds, the Committee supports technical assistance and science-based resources on implementing source reduction strategies, sustainable ventilation, filtration, monitoring and other indoor air quality improvements for healthy school environments.

Department of Health and Human Services - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Report Language

Indoor Air Quality. —The Committee encourages CDC to conduct a study on how indoor air quality impacts pathogen transmission, including how increased use of outdoor air ventilation, filtration strategies, and germicidal ultraviolet (GUV) light affect such transmission.

Department of Defense - Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-wide

Report Language

The Committee encourages the Department to conduct studies on how indoor air quality impacts pathogen transmission and the health of our military personnel. Such studies may include increased use of outdoor air ventilation, filtration strategies, and germicidal ultraviolet (GUV) light.

We hope to continue working with Congress and federal agencies to keep Americans safe, healthy, and productive indoors. We appreciate your consideration of our requests.

Sincerely,

ASHRAE
Air Club
Airthings
American Industrial Hygiene Association
American Institute of Architects
American Society of Interior Designers (ASID)
AtmosAir Solutions
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
Attune
Blueprint Biosecurity Action
Change the Air Foundation
Global Green USA
Goldshield Technologies LLC
Green Building Initiative
iAIR Institute
IndigoJLD Green + Health
International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers (SMART)
International WELL Building Institute
Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security
National Center for Healthy Housing
National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)
National Institute of Building Science
Natura
SafeTraces
Smart Air Defense
Society for Public Health Education
Star Mountain LLC
U.S. Green Building Council
UL Solutions
UV Partners, Inc.
Torcon, Inc.
WellStat

¹ <https://www.lung.org/clean-air/indoor-air>

² Lagoudas, Georgia and Chwalek, Sabrina and Kopp, Natalie and Wentzel, Joshua and Snyder, Benjamin and Allen, Joseph G. and Cameron, Elizabeth, Federal and State Policy Opportunities to Improve Indoor Air Quality (February 04, 2025).