



Shaping Tomorrow's Global Built Environment Today

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Bill McQuade
ASHRAE Society President, 2025-2026

Email: bmcquade@baltimoreaircoil.com

November 18, 2025

The Honorable Bob Latta
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2123 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kathy Castor
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2123 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support H.R. 3474, Federal Mechanical Insulation Act,

Dear Chairman Latta and Ranking Member Castor:

ASHRAE writes in support of H.R. 3474, The Federal Mechanical Insulation Act. ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is a professional and technical society of more than 53,000 members who focus on building systems, energy efficiency, IAQ, refrigeration, and resiliency within the built environment. Through research, standards development, publishing, certification and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's global built environment today.

This bipartisan legislation aims to promote energy and water efficiency in the roughly 350,000 federal buildings by clarifying that mechanical insulation property is an energy efficiency measure that can be included in energy audits of federal buildings. Specifically, the legislation defines "Mechanical Insulation property" as materials, facings and accessory products that are part of a mechanical system and that reduce energy loss from that mechanical system and meets or exceeds the minimum requirements of the ASHRAE Standard 90.1.

We appreciate and support this legislation referencing ASHRAE Standard 90.1, *Energy Standard for Sites and Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings*. Standard 90.1 has been the benchmark for commercial building energy codes in the United States and a key basis for codes and standards around the world for more than 45 years. The standard provides in detail, the minimum energy efficiency requirements for design and construction of new sites and buildings and their systems, new portions of buildings and their systems, and new systems and equipment in existing buildings, as well as criteria for determining compliance with these requirements. This includes criteria for mechanical insulation components to limit energy loss and improve HVAC and hot water efficiency. It is an indispensable reference for engineers and other professionals involved in the design of buildings and building systems. ASHRAE Standard 90.1 is updated every three years allowing for significant energy efficiency gains over time at marginal cost. In fact, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) found that ASHRAE Standard

90.1-2022 will achieve 9.8% greater energy efficiency in commercial buildings subject to the code, as compared to the previous 2019 edition of the standard. As such, this legislation would reduce costs to taxpayers through significant energy savings.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) found only one agency out of 27 met the government's water and energy use evaluation requirement, meaning there is likely a significant need to update and maintain mechanical insulation across the federal government.

ASHRAE supports this legislation and ask that you swiftly pass this legislation out of committee. If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff contact GovAffairs@ashrae.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill McQuade", is enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

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ASHRAE Society President, 2025-2026