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Ginger Scoggins 2023-2024 ASHRAE President

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November 13, 2023

The Honorable Jason Smith The Honorable Richie Neal House Committee on Ways and Means U.S. House of Representatives 1139 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Letter sent via email and hardcopy Cc: The Honorable Linda Sanchez and The Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick

Re: H.R. 6104, the Mechanical Insulation Installation Incentive Act of 2023

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Neal:

I am writing on behalf of ASHRAE, the American Society of Heating Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers, a global professional society committed to serving humanity by advancing the arts and sciences of heating ventilation, air conditioning, refrigeration, and their allied fields. We wish to thank the House Ways and Means Committee for its consideration of H.R. 6104, the Mechanical Insulation Installation Incentive Act of 2023. We also thank the bill's sponsors and co-sponsors, all of whom sit on your committee, Representative Linda Sanchez, and Representative Brian Fitzpatrick for their leadership on this bill, which ASHRAE proudly supports.

ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1, Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings, which is named in this legislation, has been the benchmark for commercial building energy codes in the United States for more than 35 years. It is an indispensable reference for engineers and other professionals involved in design of buildings and building systems. Importantly for this legislation, this standard sets the requirements for the building envelope, which is to say, it sets the standard insulation.

Better insulation in buildings is a major determinant of their energy efficiency. More efficient buildings save business owners money every month on their utilities which directly translates into job creation and more money circulating in the local economy. There is a continual, month to month, year to year, economic benefit to owning a better insulated building. However, in *some cases* there *may be* a higher upfront cost to constructing a better insulated structure. This legislation will help offset that upfront cost, incentivizing better insulation, and in turn yielding substantial positive externalities: job creation, economic stimulus, and greenhouse gas emission mitigation. This bipartisan bill will strengthen America's economy while also increasing the resilience of our built environment. We appreciate the committee's leadership on this legislation, we offer our strongest support, and our Society stands ready to assist in any way.

Sincerely,

Ginger Scoggins ASHRAE President