



Indoor Air Quality Association, Inc.

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May 24, 2017

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, Chair
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Udall, Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Support for FY2017 and FY2018 Funding for ENERGY STAR®

Dear Chair Murkowski and Ranking Member Udall:

I am writing today, as President of the Indoor Air Quality Association (IAQA), to express the Association's very strong support for the EPA's Indoor Air Program, which is managed by their Office of Air and Radiation/Indoor Environments Division. The Association urges you to maintain and consider expanding the annual funding for this very important public health program as you proceed into deliberations on the budget for Federal Fiscal Year 2018.

The public health risks associated with indoor air pollution are well known. Deaths from radon exposure and unvented biomass cooking and heating alone result in millions of deaths annually worldwide. For that and many other reasons, the EPA Indoor Air Program is so important to the health and safety of our citizens.

It is important to note that Americans, on average, spend 90% of their time indoors. This is where we live and breathe. It is essential to have this vital program run by those in EPA since they have the expertise aimed at reducing and preventing disease and poor health outcomes from buildings, not to mention the economic costs associated with poor indoor air quality.

EPA's indoor air program is non-regulatory and relies on partnerships and collaboration with federal agencies, states, tribes, non-governmental organizations and private industry. This program, which is innovative and cost-effective, is anchored in legislative authority outlined in

SARA Title IV (indoor air research/public awareness on risks and risk reduction) and TSCA Title III (radon).

As members of Congress, you can help by:

- Supporting indoor air pollution risk reduction as a public health issue;
- Providing the funding to maintain this program
- Authorizing additional efforts to increase public awareness and action by supporting technical assistance and outreach opportunities.

Established in 1995, the Indoor Air Quality Association (IAQA) is dedicated to bringing practitioners together to prevent and solve indoor environmental problems for the benefit of consumers and the public. IAQA's membership is comprised of individuals and companies, including: contractors, consultants, facility maintenance professionals, researchers, industry vendors, school officials, and representatives from state and federal government agencies.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Lapotaire".

John Lapotaire
President

cc: Cole Stanton, Chair, IAQA Government Affairs Committee
Stephanie Sears, IAQA Executive Director
Jim Scarborough, Staff Liaison for IAQA Government Affairs Committee