

**December 2012/January 2013  
New Congress, New Legislation**

On January 3, 2013, the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress (2013–2014) was officially gaveled into session as all 435 members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the new members of the U.S. Senate were sworn into office.

In the following 28 days of January, action in Washington, DC centered on the second inauguration of President Obama; the high-profile hearings and response to the tragic shooting in Newtown, Connecticut; and the news that a bipartisan group of Senators reached a broad framework for overall immigration reform. While these issues, along with noted departures and nominations to the President's cabinet, seemed to dominant Congress, there still has been a lot of work going on behind the scenes.

With the naming of Representative Tom Reed (R-NY) to replace Representative Donald Manzullo (R-IL) as the Republican co-chair of the House Manufacturing Caucus, the naming of Representative David McKinley (R-WV) to replace Representative Judy Biggert as the Republican co-chairman of the High Performance Building Caucus, and the reintroduction of the Mechanical Insulation Installation Incentive Act, the National Insulation Association (NIA) and our members have a lot to be excited about.

Major, broad-based tax reform continues to be a hot topic and will surely be a part of ongoing fiscal discussions within Congress over the next 4 months. As a result, we were surprised and excited to see that on January 4, 2013, Representative Michael Grimm (R-NY) and Representative Timothy Bishop (D-NY) introduced H.R. 184, the Mechanical Insulation Installation Incentive Act. Rep. Grimm and Rep. Bishop were both co-sponsors of H.R. 2866 in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress and have partnered to reintroduce the bill with the identical language to that in last Congress' bill. NIA and our partners in Washington, DC will again make this bill a top priority, along with highlighting the overall impact that mechanical insulation can have on our economy, our energy usage, and emissions reductions.

With tax reform and energy efficiency continuing to be highlighted for potential inclusion in the overall fiscal reforms to control our nation's debt and deficit, we will have plenty of opportunities to push the use of mechanical insulation. We continue to work with members of Congress on both sides of the aisle to educate them on the mechanical insulation industry, the need for tax incentives to highlight the great impact mechanical insulation has, and how our government and nation can take advantage of this ready-to-use technology.

We are carefully considering all of the opportunities before us and look forward to communicating what we are working on, our successes and challenges, what the remainder of 2013 has in store, and how you can help. If you haven't done so already, please register to attend NIA's 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, April 17–20, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point in Bonita Springs, Florida. We plan to hold the second annual Foundation Stakeholder's Luncheon to update all of our Foundation contributors on the initiatives their contributions are helping to advance. In addition, we'll be updating the NIA membership on our progress. For a full schedule of events, and to register, please visit [www.insulation.org/convention](http://www.insulation.org/convention).

Regards,  
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Executive Vice President/CEO