

Calling All NIA Members!
May 2013

NIA has capitalized on the momentum from the introduction of mechanical insulation legislation during the month of May. Through meetings with key partners, education and awareness efforts, and collaboration with legislators, the *Mechanical Insulation Installation Incentive Act*—H.R. 184—is gaining support in the House of Representatives.

Call to Action

Now is the time to show legislators the strong support for H.R. 184. NIA is asking all its members to contact their Congressional Representative and urge them to join on as a cosponsor of this important legislation. Though mechanical insulation is often misunderstood and even ignored in energy discussions, commercial buildings and industrial facilities consume 2½ times more energy than homes, which is why we support legislation to help the commercial and industrial sectors reduce their costly energy bills, increase their global competitiveness, and create jobs. The concrete financial benefits this bill would provide to those who work with mechanical insulation are immense; please lend your voice to our efforts. Make sure you check your email for a message from our Associate Editor, Caitlyn Freitas, for complete details on this effort, or visit our website at www.insulation.org.

Additionally, on May 16, NIA Past President and Consultant Ron King moderated the High-Performance Building Caucus Briefing on “Advancing the Building Industry: Findings and Recommendations from the Consultative Council,” held in the Rayburn House Office Building on Capitol Hill. The briefing gathered experts together to discuss this year’s initiatives and goals, and report on the findings and recommendations from the Consultative Council’s 2012 Report: “Moving Forward: Findings and Recommendations from the Consultative Council.”

The recommendations from this report can directly influence policy decisions, Congressional bills and laws, and can impact future building codes and their adoption rates. The Consultative Council seeks to represent all aspects of the building industry and works with policymakers to promote the importance of high performance buildings and infrastructure. The success of NIA’s Foundation work was clear in the Council’s report, which adopted many of our recommendations and advocated for the use of updated building codes and an increased use of thermal insulation on mechanical systems.

We are continuing to work with Representatives Grimm (R-NY) and Bishop (D-NY), and we are getting excellent feedback and advice on moving forward with our bill and getting additional

support. In May, H.R. 184 added 10 cosponsors, bringing the total list of cosponsors to 25. The new sponsors included Paul Broun (R-GA), Sam Graves (R-MO), Bill Johnson (R-OH), David Joyce (R-OH), Leonard Lance (R-NJ), Frank Lobiondo (R-NJ), Scott Peters (D-CA), Michael R. Turner (R-OH), Henry Waxman (D-CA), and Peter Welch (D-VT).

In addition to working to add cosponsors to H.R. 184, we have also been pushing our issues with the House and Senate working groups on tax reform to ensure that our bill and issues will get adequate attention as the House and Senate move forward with broad-based tax reform. We are continuing to work with Senator Rob Portman (R-OH), Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Representative David McKinley (R-WV), and Representative Peter Welch (D-VT) to potentially add language to their energy efficiency bills encouraging the use of mechanical insulation in any federal energy efficiency program.

NIA's partnership with the High-Performance Building Congressional Caucus Coalition has also been helpful in further advancing our legislative goals. Please request that your Congressional Representative join as a member of the High-Performance Building Caucus so they can learn the numerous benefits that high performance buildings can have on our energy efficiency, energy costs, workplace safety and health, and overall economic competitiveness.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michele M. Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Michele M. Jones
Executive Vice President/CEO