

Insulation Advocate

Insulation Advocate: Update on April's Activities Working Behind the Scenes on Capitol Hill

April was a busy month for NIA as we strategized, collaborated, and educated on Capitol Hill. While continuing our efforts to perform mechanical insulation assessments on military installations throughout the country, we were extremely pleased to see both the House Energy and Commerce Committee and the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources maintain their commitment to energy efficiency and take the initial steps to move broad-based energy legislation.

Through our collaboration with Congressman Adam Kinzinger (R-IL), Congressman Jerry McNerney (D-CA), and the Energy and Commerce Committee staff, we were able to place our language from H.R. 568, the Thermal Efficiency Improvement Act, in the Committee's energy efficiency draft legislation, which was recently introduced. Our provision was later highlighted by Energy and Power Subcommittee Chairman Ed Whitfield (R-KY) during the Committee's hearing on the package on April 30, 2015.

On the same day, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Chairwoman Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) held a hearing laying the groundwork for the introduction of the Senate's version of energy-efficiency legislation. NIA drafted and submitted a Statement for the Record for this hearing, in which we requested that our language from H.R. 568 would be included in the Senate's version of energy efficiency legislation as well. We received very positive feedback on our language and are hopeful that when the bill is eventually introduced that our language will be a part of the bill.

We also joined ASHRAE and other organizations in signing a letter encouraging the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee to support the inclusion of positive building energy codes language in the text or report for the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2016. Working together with related organizations is so crucial to our long-term success.

Things tend to move slowly on Capitol Hill, but we are making the most of every opportunity to encourage the inclusion of mechanical insulation legislation and relevant energy-efficiency legislation whenever possible. We are hopeful that these "behind-the-scenes" efforts will help us win more legislative victories for the insulation industry.

Best Regards,

Michele M. Jones

NIA EVP/CEO

National Insulation Association | 703-464-6422

12100 Sunset Hills Road

Suite 330

Reston, VA 20190

www.Insulation.org | www.InsulationOutlook.com | www.InsulateMetalBuildings.org

###

NIA is a not-for-profit trade association representing both merit (open shop) and union contractors, distributors, laminators, fabricators, and manufacturers that provide thermal insulation, insulation accessories, and components to the commercial, mechanical, and industrial markets throughout the nation. Since 1953, the northern Virginia-based association has been the voice of the insulation industry and is dedicated to keeping the commercial and industrial insulation industry up to date on the latest industry trends and technologies. For more information, visit www.insulation.org.