Dear Senators;

On behalf of the millions of members and supporters our organizations represent, we urge you to support S.761, introduced by Senators Shaheen (D-NH) and Portman (R-OH), and to oppose adding any amendments that do not embrace the principles of cooperation and consensus that the bill embodies.

As drafted, this legislation would increase energy efficiency in buildings, industry and the federal government, reducing pollution while saving taxpayer dollars and creating jobs throughout the economy.

S. 761 was built on a principle of consensus: every provision and modification went through a review process with a broad group of stakeholders and only those provisions which achieved consensus were included in the bill. The broad support the bill has received is the product of that principle.

We thank Senators Shaheen and Portman for their leadership and once again urge the committee to pass this legislation expeditiously. We also urge that any amendments considered during the markup process reflect the same consensus principle upon which the bill was built. There is no reason to delay capturing the many benefits of energy efficiency.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to continuing to work with you and the Committee to advance energy efficiency gains that will benefit all Americans.

Sincerely,

Franz A. Matzner
Associate Director of Government Affairs
Natural Resources Defense Council

Tiernan Sittenfeld
Senior Vice President, Government Affairs
League of Conservation Voters

Marchant Wentworth
Legislative Director
Climate and Energy Program
Union of Concerned Scientists

Dave Alberswerth
Senior Policy Advisor
The Wilderness Society