July 8, 2015

The Honorable Fred Upton Chairman, Energy and Commerce Committee United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr. Ranking Member, Energy and Commerce Committee United States House of Representatives

## **RE: The SAVE Act**

Dear Chairman Upton and Ranking Member Pallone:

The undersigned group of manufacturers, builders, business groups, energy efficiency and housing organizations write today to express our support for a provision in H.R.2177, Section 433 - Enhanced Energy Efficiency Underwriting, also known as the SAVE Act. It seeks to improve the energy efficiency of homes by providing a voluntary means of financing energy efficient features and improving the accuracy of mortgage underwriting by federal mortgage agencies. The SAVE Act has enjoyed bipartisan support in both the House and Senate and we urge you to include it in any comprehensive energy legislation moving through the Committee.

While manufacturers and builders are continually innovating new energy efficient products and features, current mortgage underwriting processes and appraisals do not fully consider the costs and value of energy efficient features in a home. As a result, the consumer may not benefit from these important money- and energy-saving aspects in the mortgage. However, with no new subsidies, mandates, or bureaucracies, the SAVE Act would bring transparency, accuracy, and security to the home appraisal and mortgage underwriting processes, help finance energy efficient homes and retrofits, and create vitally needed jobs in local markets.

Since over 90 percent of the mortgages originated in the U.S. are through Federal entities such as the Federal Housing Administration, the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, Fannie Mae, and Freddie Mac, the Act will provide the policy guidance needed to overcome bureaucratic inertia.

Given the SAVE Act's benefits for the U.S. economy, jobs, American manufacturing, and consumers, the undersigned members of the coalition ask for your support of this important legislation and to include it in any comprehensive energy legislation moving through the Committee. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

- Alliance for Environmental Sustainability
- Alliance to Save Energy
- American Chemistry Council
- American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
- American Public Gas Association
- Appraisal Institute
- ASHRAE
- **BASF** Corporation
- Bayer MaterialScience LLC
- CertainTeed
- Digital Energy & Sustainability Solutions Campaign
- Efficiency First
- Elevate Energy
- Energy Efficient Codes Coalition
- EnergyLogic Inc.
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Environmental and Energy Study Institute
- Extreme Panel Technologies, Inc.
- Green Builder<sup>®</sup> Coalition
- Green Builder<sup>®</sup> Media, LLC
- Home Performance Coalition
- Institute for Market Transformation
- Insulation Contractors Association of America
- International Code Council
- Johns Manville
- **Knauf Insulation**
- Leading Builders of America
- LTLB Envirotecture
- LTLB Renovate
- National Association of Home Builders
- National Association of Manufacturers
- National Association of the Remodeling Industry
- National Association of State Energy Officials
- National Electrical Manufacturers Association
- National Housing Conference
- National Housing Trust
- Natural Resources Defense Council

North American Insulation Manufacturers Association Owens Corning PFB Corporation PorterWorks RESNET ROXUL Santa Fe Area Home Builders Association Southern Energy Management The Dow Chemical Company The Real Estate Roundtable U.S. Chamber of Commerce U.S. Green Building Council Window & Door Manufacturers Association

cc: Members of the House Energy & Commerce Committee