September 11, 2020

The Honorable John Barrasso  
Chairman  
Committee on Environment & Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thomas Carper  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Environment & Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Kennedy  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso, Ranking Member Carper, and Senator Kennedy:

On behalf of the members of the Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) and the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy, we are writing in support of your bipartisan hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) phasedown amendment offered to the Senate energy bill (S. 2657), and in support of the energy bill being brought to the Senate floor for consideration as soon as possible.

The broadly bipartisan Barrasso-Carper-Kennedy amendment provides for a federal transition out of HFC refrigerants and into next generation technologies, many of which are made in the United States. We believe the bipartisan amendment will provide regulatory certainty for U.S. businesses and secure a position of strength for American companies in a highly competitive global market for next generation technologies.

Phasing down HFCs will create new U.S. manufacturing jobs and stimulate further investment in the U.S. economy. At the same time, it will advance important objectives in protecting natural resources and the environment in a balanced and effective way.

The Barrasso-Carper-Kennedy amendment represents a chance to put America first, and to keep American workers at the forefront of this important global industry – which has never been more important than today, as our industry struggles through these extraordinary times.
A University of Maryland analysis, for example, found an HFC phase down will create 33,000 new U.S. manufacturing jobs, stimulate $12.5 billion in new investment in the U.S. economy, and boost exports by 25 percent.

In light of the foregoing, we respectfully urge the swift consideration and passage of the energy bill with the Barrasso-Carper-Kennedy amendment to ensure the continued global competitiveness of the U.S. heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration sector and the 1.3 million Americans currently employed by it. Innovation and technology have always been the hallmarks of American industry, and your amendment would ensure that proud tradition continues for decades to come.

Sincerely,

Stephen R. Yurek
President & CEO
AHRI

Kevin Fay
Executive Director
Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy