

# The American Innovation and Manufacturing Act of 2019

(S. 2754)

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- The AIM Act was introduced in the U.S. Senate on October 30<sup>th</sup> by Senators John Kennedy (R-La.) and Tom Carper (D-Del.) plus fourteen co-sponsors, divided evenly among Republicans and Democrats.
- The U.S. heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration (HVACR) industry supports the AIM Act, as does the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and the Natural Resources Defense Council.
- The AIM Act phases down refrigerants known as hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), providing an orderly, innovation-driven transition to next generation technologies for U.S. manufacturers and consumers.
- The AIM Act also authorizes EPA to harmonize refrigerant management and sector- based programs, so there would be a single Federal program for HFCs and ozone-depleting substances.
- This grant of authority is highly limited – and cannot be used for any purpose other than phasing down HFCs. It has no precedential value, except to show EPA needs Congress to act where EPA wants to control new substances and lacks express authority under existing law.

## Economic Benefits

- The AIM Act allows U.S. manufacturers to maintain technology leadership in the global fluorocarbon and equipment marketplaces, while at the same time creating new domestic jobs and driving economic growth. According to an industry study, it will:
  - Create 33,000 manufacturing jobs, and sustains 138,400 existing jobs between now and 2027.
  - Increase direct manufacturing output by \$12.5 billion, and total (direct and indirect) manufacturing output by \$38.8 billion between now and 2027.
  - Improve the U.S. trade balance in equipment and chemicals by \$12.5 billion.
- Studies also forecast the overall contribution to the economy from the HVACR industry will be 2.5 million jobs, and \$621 billion in economic output by 2027.

## Consumer Benefits

- American consumers will benefit from the transition from HFCs to more environmentally friendly substitutes and more efficient cooling and refrigeration products and equipment.
- As with previous technology transitions, existing consumer equipment would not be impacted by an HFC phasedown. HFCs will remain available for servicing existing equipment, as was the case during prior transitions from older refrigerants, such as CFCs, which did not harm consumers.

