

Dorothy Coleman

Vice President

Tax, Technology & Domestic Economic Policy

September 15, 2010

Dear Representative:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)—the nation’s largest industrial trade association—urges you to support the bipartisan Rural Energy Savings Program Act (H.R. 4785) slated for a floor vote this week.

By providing interest-free loans through the Rural Utilities Service, the legislation would make it easier for consumers to implement home energy-efficiency measures. In addition to reducing energy costs for consumers, the “Rural Star” program would spur consumer demand for energy-efficient products and create jobs in the manufacturing and distribution of these products.

Cost-effective energy efficiency and conservation measures are important for reducing energy costs, stretching available energy supplies and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The manufacturing sector has taken the lead in making energy efficiency a priority. In fact, manufacturers’ efforts on this front over the past 40 years have already made our nation 46 percent more energy efficient.

American manufacturers are committed to producing more energy-efficient consumer products for residential use. With more than half of the 86 million single-family homes throughout the United States constructed before modern codes even existed, the vast majority of U.S. homes are not well insulated, have outdated heating and cooling systems, have inefficient windows and doors and are great candidates for energy-efficiency upgrades.

NAM members believe that H.R. 4785 will help improve the energy efficiency of American homes while increasing employment in the U.S. manufacturing industries. We urge you to support quick action on this important initiative.

Sincerely,

