

**U.S. Consumer Products, Manufacturing, Real Estate, and Retail Sectors  
Support FY'27 Appropriations for ENERGY STAR**

April 14, 2026

The Hon. Chuck Fleischmann  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Energy  
& Water Development  
U.S. House Appropriations Committee

The Hon. John Kennedy  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Energy  
& Water Development  
U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee

The Hon. Marcy Kaptur  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Energy  
& Water Development  
U.S. House Appropriations Committee

The Hon. Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Energy  
& Water Development  
U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee

The Hon. Mike Simpson  
Chair  
Subcomm. on Interior & Environment  
U.S. House Appropriations Committee

The Hon. Lisa Murkowski  
Chair  
Subcomm. on Interior & Environment  
U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee

The Hon. Chellie Pingree  
Ranking Member  
Subcomm. on Interior & Environment  
U.S. House Appropriations Committee

The Hon. Jeff Merkley  
Ranking Member  
Subcomm. on Interior and Environment  
U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee

Dear Chairs and Ranking Members:

On behalf of the consumer products, manufacturing, real estate, retail, and conformity assessment sectors, the undersigned organizations urge your committees to continue FY'27 appropriations for the ENERGY STAR program similar to the approach of the FY'26 spending bill signed into law in January. We respectfully request that the FY'27 spending bill include key elements that your committees achieved in the FY'26 measure:

- Explicit ENERGY STAR funding should again be included in the text of appropriations legislation. For FY'27, the amount should consolidate past funding (\$33M - \$36M) expressly given to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), **plus** amounts used by the Department of Energy (DOE) historically to run its portion of the program. A specific amount in statutory text – **appropriated to DOE** – is needed for the FY'27 spending bill, in light of its new role as ENERGY STAR's "lead agency" under the [Memorandum of Agreement \(MOA\)](#) signed with EPA last month.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> In the FY'26 funding cycle, Senate appropriators for EPA directed \$36 million for ENERGY STAR in the text of the [bill it passed last August](#) (at p. 87). Almost four months after FY'26 started, in late January the President signed [H.R. 6938](#) explicitly directing \$33 million (at p. 122) for EPA to run ENERGY STAR through September 30. No specific, textual amounts were provided to DOE in FY'26 for its program responsibilities. Last month's MOA indicates that, going forward, DOE will become ENERGY STAR's new "lead agency." Accordingly, for FY'27 appropriations, we respectfully urge Congress to direct consolidated ENERGY STAR appropriations through a specific amount explicit in bill text that reflects both agencies' prior funding (e.g., \$36 million as the Senate approved for EPA in FY'26, **plus** the amount covering DOE's past role as secondary agency).

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- Strong report language showing Congress's interest in the program and oversight for a smooth, comprehensive, and robust transition from EPA to DOE.<sup>2</sup>

Our industries are engines of the U.S. economy. [Manufacturers in America contribute \\$2.95 trillion](#) to the U.S. economy annually. [The consumer technology industry is projected to reach \\$565 billion](#) in revenue in 2026, growing 3.7% from 2025. [The total value of America's investable commercial real estate is \\$26.8 trillion](#), more than half the market capitalization of the U.S. stock market. [Housing's combined contribution to GDP generally averages 15%-18%](#), with the value of new residential construction alone averaging roughly 3-5% of GDP. [Retail contributes \\$5.3 trillion to annual GDP](#) and is the nation's largest private-sector employer. [The business of chemistry supports 25% of GDP and generates \\$673 billion annually](#). The testing, inspection, and certification sector supports all of these industries in countless ways.

We create tens of millions of American jobs. Retail supports one in four U.S. jobs — [55 million working Americans](#). U.S. consumer technology supports more than [17 million](#) U.S. jobs. Real estate supports over [14 million](#) direct U.S. jobs. There were nearly [13 million](#) manufacturing workers in January 2026.

In addition to the massive positive impacts our industries bring collectively to the economy, our organizations align regarding longstanding support for ENERGY STAR. As our multi-sector coalition explained in a [letter to Congress](#) last June, clear legislative authorization backs ENERGY STAR as a voluntary, non-regulatory program that the federal government must implement.

This public-private partnership drives the critical bipartisan objective of energy affordability. "Since 1992, ENERGY STAR and its partners have helped American families and businesses [save more than \\$500 billion](#) in energy costs." In 2020 alone, ENERGY STAR saved the equivalent of approximately 47 million homes' energy use for a year. Considering the \$33 million appropriated for ENERGY STAR in the very text of the FY'26 spending bill ([H.R. 6938](#)), taxpayers receive a tremendous return on their investment for this program.

Our multi-industry coalition sent a [March 30, 2026 letter](#) to support DOE's new role as "lead agency" for ENERGY STAR, as indicated in last month's Memorandum of Agreement with EPA. The program is at a critical juncture. Ample, consolidated agency resources for FY'27, in line with FY'26 funding levels, are essential to maintain during ENERGY STAR's transition phase.

Reducing energy costs and protecting energy choices for American families and businesses should remain a central priority. Lowering costs through efficiency also supports broader competitiveness goals including strengthening national defense, leading the world in AI, and ensuring U.S. energy dominance. ENERGY STAR is the federal government's primary voluntary program for delivering real cost savings on energy bills. It provides practical, market-based tools for consumer products, homes, and income-producing real estate to improve energy affordability.

Thank you for considering our request for FY'27 appropriations for ENERGY STAR.

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<sup>2</sup> We hope the [Senate's report language \(at p. 98\) from last year](#) can be used as reference again this year: "The Committee recognizes the value of and continues to support the Energy Star program and recommends \$36,000,000 for Energy Star, equal to the fiscal year 2024 enacted level. Therefore, the agency is directed to report to the Committee not later than 30 days after the enactment of this act on the future of Energy Star."

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**Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute**  
**American Bakers Association**  
**American Cement Association**  
**American Chemistry Council**  
**American Hotel & Lodging Association**  
**American Lighting Association**  
**Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM)**  
**Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International**  
**Cellulose Insulation Manufacturers Association**  
**Home Innovation Research Labs**  
**ICSC**  
**Illuminating Engineering Society**  
**Leading Builders of America**  
**North American Insulation Manufacturers Association**  
**NAIOP, Commercial Real Estate Development Association**  
**Nareit**  
**National Apartment Association**  
**National Association of Electrical Distributors (NAED)**  
**National Association of Home Builders**  
**National Association of Manufacturers**  
**National Association of REALTORS®**  
**National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)**  
**National Multifamily Housing Council**  
**PIMA - Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association**  
**Pool & Hot Tub Alliance**  
**Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY)**  
**Spray Foam Coalition**  
**Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance**  
**TIC Council**  
**The Real Estate Roundtable**

Cc: The Hon. Susan Collins, Chair, U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee  
The Hon. Patty Murray, Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee  
The Hon. Tom Cole, Chair, U.S. House Appropriations Committee  
The Hon. Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member, U.S. House Appropriations Committee  
The Hon. Mike Lee, Chairman, U.S. Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee  
The Hon. Martin Heinrich, Ranking Member, U.S. Senate  
Energy & Natural Resources Committee  
The Hon. Brett Guthrie, Chairman, U.S. House Energy & Commerce Committee  
The Hon. Frank Pallone, Ranking Member, U.S. House Energy & Commerce Committee  
Members of the U.S. House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees  
for Energy & Water, and Interior, Environment & Related Agencies  
Members of the U.S. House and Senate Energy Subcommittees