

December 2013

Federal Energy Efficiency

POLICY UPDATE



HR 1616: Energy Savings & Industrial Competitiveness Act

- Sponsored by Rep. McKinley (R-WV) and Rep. Welch (D-VT)
 - Rep. Kinzinger (R-IL) newly added
- House version of the Shaheen Portman Legislation
- 17 cosponsors
- Major Provisions:
 - Supports development and adoption of updated building codes
 - Eases financing for building retrofits
 - Provides rebates for industrial motors and transformers
 - Several federal energy provisions

HR 2689: Energy Savings Through Public-Private Partnerships

- Introduced by Rep. Gardner (R-CO) and Rep. Welch (D-VT)
- 51 cosponsors
- Major Provisions
 - Sets a goal of \$1 B per year of private sector investment in Federal energy efficiency through performance contracting
 - Calls on Federal energy managers to provide rationale for not implementing comprehensive energy efficiency projects that are lifecycle cost effective
- Sen. Coons (D-DE) introduced companion legislation in the Senate (S.1308)

HR 2126: Better Buildings Act of 2013

- Sponsored by Reps. McKinley (R-WV) and Welch (D-VT)
- Major Provisions
 - Addresses energy efficiency in Federally leased buildings
 - Established an EPA “Tenant Star” Program for rating leased space within whole buildings
- Senators Bennet (D-CO) and Ayotte (R-NH) introduced companion bill in Senate (S. 1191)

HR 2128: Homes Act

- Sponsored by Rep. McKinley (R-WV) and Welch (D-VT)
- 2 cosponsors
- Major Provisions
 - Would provide rebates up for energy efficiency upgrades in homes. Rebate of \$2000 for 20% improvement and an additional \$1000 for each additional 5% improvement (Capped at \$8,000)
 - Performance Based improvements
- Smaller and more strategic “Home Star”; however the projected cost to the Treasury will be a challenge to passage

S. 1106: SAVE (Sensible Accounting to Value Energy) Act

- Sponsored by Sen. Bennett (D-CO) and Isakson (R-GA)
- Major Provisions
 - Instructs HUD to write new rules for FHA loans that:
 - Adjust for expected energy cost savings to offset other expenses (Debt to Income ratio)
 - Add present value of expected energy savings when calculating loan to value (LTV) ratio
 - Inform loan applicants of the benefits of EE and resources for improving home's energy use
- Supporters include NAR, NAHB, AI, AIA, USGBC, US Chamber, NAM, ACC, ASE, ACEEE, NRDC, ETC.



About the Virginia Energy Efficiency Council:

Founded in 2012, the Virginia Energy Efficiency Council seeks to assess and support programs, Innovation, best practices and policies which grow Virginia's energy efficiency industry and to provide a forum for stakeholder interaction.