



March 2, 2020

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Joe Manchin
Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Manchin:

The National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) offers our strong support for the *American Energy Innovation Act* (S. 2657). We greatly appreciate your leadership of this landmark, bipartisan legislative package. The breadth of practical energy measures included in S. 2657 reflect the diversity of energy opportunities and challenges facing states across the nation, and demonstrates your commitment to extending energy, economic, and environmental benefits to all Americans.

For decades, states have worked with the private sector and local governments to advance innovative energy solutions in virtually every energy production and end-use sector. The *American Energy Innovation Act* supports important high-priority energy areas for the states. For example, strengthening of the cyber and physical security elements of the U.S. State Energy Program advances security while affording governors and their state energy officials great flexibility in addressing shared state-federal-private responsibilities. There are many additional elements of the bill that are important to NASEO, including: authorization of the Weatherization Assistance Program; incentives for hydroelectric production; actions to support building and industrial energy efficiency; expansion of energy storage; support for carbon capture and utilization; advances in vehicle technologies; establishment of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Technology Transitions; increased state access to DOE loan programs; and modernization of the grid.

Finally, we urge your consideration of any amendment that would restore important building energy codes language originally found in the *Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act*. Sections 101 and 102 of S.2137 should be added to your bipartisan bill, and it will be a much stronger package.

We greatly appreciate your efforts to advance this important legislation, and NASEO offers our strongest endorsement of the *American Energy Innovation Act* (S. 2657).

Respectfully,

David Terry,
Executive Director, NASEO

cc: State Energy Officials

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