



July Update

Friends—

The massive tax-related bill passed by the U.S. Senate this week—now pending in the House—includes [numerous attacks on energy efficiency](#). The bill would eliminate key tax credits, welcome manufacturers to ignore clean car and truck standards, and rescind unobligated funds from numerous efficiency-related programs. If the bill becomes law, it could undo significant progress in energy efficiency made in recent years and increase Americans' monthly bills.

On a much brighter note, local communities thrive when residents can get around safely and affordably without having to rely on cars. Over the past two years, ACEEE has partnered with four localities to help them expand affordable transportation options: St. Louis County, Missouri; Sumter, South Carolina; Lima, Ohio; and Lansing, Michigan. From identifying needed bus stop improvements to establishing opportunities for resident input, we're proud to share the outcomes of this work in recent [case studies](#).

Thank you, as always, for your interest in our work.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve'.

Efficiency Update

- The Department of Energy indefinitely [delayed implementation](#) of the 2022 efficiency standards for manufactured homes. Compliance for multi-section homes, the majority of those at issue, had been set to take effect on Tuesday. Without the standards, companies can keep building poorly sealed homes with thin insulation, based on a HUD code from 1994.

- Maine recently enacted a law expanding its appliance efficiency standards. Some of the newly covered products include residential ventilating fans, commercial battery chargers, and computer server power supplies. Maine's new law is based on model legislation from the Appliance Standards Awareness Project, which is housed at ACEEE.
- In Ann Arbor, Michigan, the City Council recently [passed an ordinance](#) to set a minimum baseline for the energy efficiency of rental housing, which will improve health and comfort. To comply, a unit can either receive a qualifying rating during an assessment or earn enough points on a checklist. Many elements of the new program were inspired by the SmartRegs rental program in Boulder, Colorado.
- The Home Builders Association of Michigan and the Michigan Manufactured Housing Association have sued the state to challenge new residential energy codes set to take effect in August. The code is based on the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code and is the state's first major update since 2015.

Our Latest Research



Need for Repairs Is Blocking Weatherization in a Fifth of Eligible Homes

New research provides details on how many low-income households cannot participate in weatherization programs because of necessary home repairs, such as fixing leaky roofs.



Local Residents Can Guide Safer Street Design with Walk Audits

This toolkit can help communities assess pedestrian safety and identify upgrades that support safe, walkable streets.

Building a Competitive, Lower-Emissions Chemical Sector

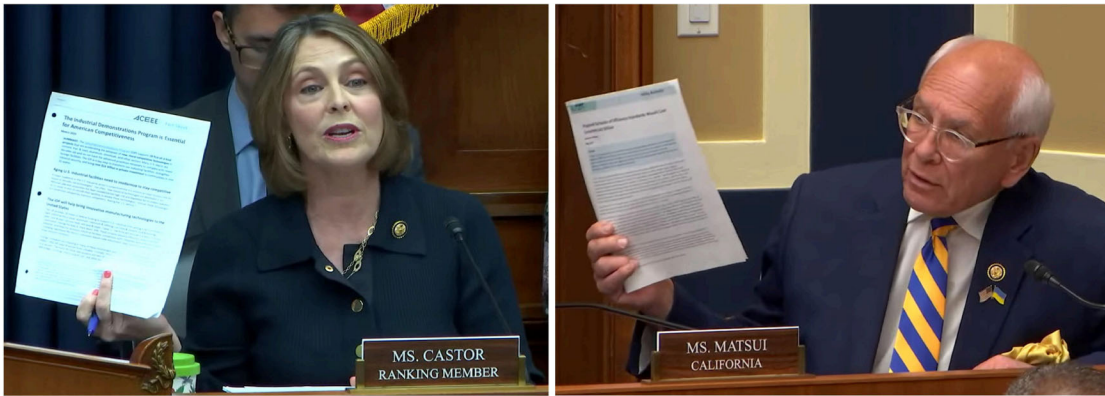
This brief describes how federal policymakers can advance innovative production processes and feedstocks to help



ensure continued international competitiveness and safer products.

See all our recent [blog posts](#) and [press releases](#).

ACEEE in Action



Rep. Kathy Castor and Rep. Paul Tonko cited our analyses on the impacts of DOE's industrial demonstrations program and canceling appliance standards, respectively, at a recent [hearing](#) with Energy Secretary Chris Wright.

What We're Reading

A few of our favorite media highlights from the past month:

- [Grist](#) featured ACEEE's report on deferrals from the Weatherization Assistance Program, quoting behavior, health, and human dimensions program director Reuven Sussman.
- The [Associated Press](#) quoted executive director Steve Nadel on the congressional plan to terminate energy efficiency tax credits.
- The [Guardian](#) cited ASAP's analysis showing that federal efficiency standards rollbacks would add \$54 billion in utility bills.

Resources

ACEEE and our partners in the Smart Surfaces Coalition launched an updated [tool](#) that tracks smart surfaces policies across U.S. cities and states. These policies include approaches to mitigate extreme heat and flooding through design strategies like reflective roofs and pavements, porous surfaces, green roofs, solar panels, trees, and rain gardens. With more than 1,935 policy

items, the tool serves as a resource for policymakers and others to explore how different cities have approached implementation.

Staff Update

Our friend and colleague Geneva Jones retired last week after 26 years at ACEEE. We will miss her dearly but wish her well in this next chapter!



Upcoming Events



July 16–18, Charlotte, NC

[Learn more](#)



October 7–9, Denver, CO
Register early for the best rate

[Learn more](#)



November 2–5, Sacramento, CA
Register early for the best rate

[Learn more](#)

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