



Shaping Tomorrow's Global Built Environment Today

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Bill McQuade
ASHRAE Society President, 2025-2026

Email: bmcquade@baltimoreaircoil.com

November 18, 2025

The Honorable Bob Latta
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2123 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kathy Castor
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2123 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 202515

RE: H.R. 1355, the Weatherization Enhancement and Readiness Act of 2025

Dear Chairman Latta and Ranking Member Castor:

ASHRAE would like to voice our support for the goals of H.R. 1355, the Weatherization Enhancement and Readiness Act, and urge the committee to pass this bill out of markup. This legislation would reauthorize the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) through Fiscal Year 2030 while making reforms to retain a skilled workforce and further increase energy savings. ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is a professional and technical society of more than 53,000 members who focus on building systems, energy efficiency, IAQ, refrigeration, and resiliency within the built environment. Through research, standards development, publishing, certification and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's global built environment today.


Since 1976, the WAP has supported investments for families to reduce their energy consumption by making their homes more energy efficient, lowering family's utility bills and reducing overall energy demand on our nation's grid. In fact, the WAP has enabled upgrades that save households an average of \$372 or more in average annual energy costs every year. In addition, the program supports a vibrant workforce across the energy sector, including trade careers which don't require a 4-year degree such as insulation installers and HVAC technicians. According to the Department of Energy (DOE), the annual funds provided by WAP support 8,500 jobs every year. However, there is a growing workforce shortage in the energy efficiency industry, and the agencies responsible for implementing the WAP are unable to offer competitive wages to meet the growing workforce demand. The program is limited by the cap on average per home expenditures.

H.R. 1355 makes much needed reforms to the program to address rising labor and materials costs. The legislation would increase the Average Cost Per Dwelling Unit (APCU) from \$6,500 to \$12,000, allowing deeper, more effective weatherization services and supporting competitive wages for skilled workers. The APCU has not been raised since 2010, restricting the services households receive and

putting pressure on WAP crews' wages, which are included in the ACPU calculation. These reforms are urgently needed as the energy sector will continue to face a growing shortage of skilled trade employees.

ASHRAE supports the goals of this legislation and ask that you swiftly pass this legislation out of committee. If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff contact GovAffairs@ashrae.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill McQuade", is centered within a white rectangular box.

Bill McQuade
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