



July 14, 2022

Honorable Jim McGovern  
 Chairman  
 U.S. House Committee on Appropriations  
 Room H-312, The Capitol  
 Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Tom Cole  
 Ranking Member  
 U.S. House Committee on Appropriations  
 Room H-152, The Capitol  
 Washington, DC 20515

RE: Castor Division E Amendment #28— ENERGY STAR

Dear Chairman McGovern and Ranking Member Cole:

The Alliance to Save Energy, a bipartisan coalition of businesses, trade associations, environmental, and energy efficiency advocates, joins with the undersigned organizations in support of Castor Amendment #28 and increased funding for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) ENERGY STAR program.

ENERGY STAR is severely underfunded, and the program experienced an additional year-over-year decrease in actual FY 2022 funding at \$33.9 million versus FY 2021 at \$34.9 million. In fact, over the last decade the program’s budget has been reduced by \$15.8 million, representing a steady annual decline except for FY 2017 and FY 2018, when funding levels remained the same at \$42.1 million. If we were to simply adjust for inflation since 2012, ENERGY STAR would have a budget of approximately \$64 million today.

The Castor Amendment signals strong support for ENERGY STAR and would identify congressional intent that the program receives \$80 million for FY 2023. The Amendment addresses program disinvestment and is reflective of the nation’s priorities to address energy affordability, security, reliability, and climate.

**Energy Star 10-Year Funding**

<b>FY Enacted</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Total (millions)</b>	\$49.7	\$49.3	\$46.8	\$44.2	\$43.2	\$42.1	\$42.1	\$38.4	\$36.8	\$34.9	\$33.9

In 2020 alone, ENERGY STAR helped save American consumers and businesses more than [\\$42 billion](#) in avoided energy costs. During the same period ENERGY STAR accounted for nearly [400 million metric tons](#) of emissions reductions – equivalent to roughly 5% of U.S. GHG emissions. Since 1992 the program has helped businesses and consumers save [5 trillion kWhs](#) of electricity and avoid over \$500 billion in energy costs— and the program is responsible for 4 billion metric tons of GHG reductions during the same period.

The steady decrease in ENERGY STAR funding over the last decade and more has greatly restricted the program’s ability to keep pace with fast-changing markets, technology best practices, and required expansion to address today’s energy challenges. Reprioritizing ENERGY STAR will position the program to effectively impact emissions and affordability in products and equipment, residential and commercial buildings, and in industrial plants. Additional funding will also allow the program to identify strategies to effectively serve hard to reach sectors where large untapped energy savings are achievable, including low-to-moderate income, rural, disadvantaged, and tribal communities.

We thank you for your leadership on these important issues, and we look forward to our continued work together to strengthen the ENERGY STAR program. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Vincent Barnes ([vbarnes@ase.org](mailto:vbarnes@ase.org)) with the Alliance to Save Energy.

Sincerely,

Alliance to Save Energy  
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy  
American Institute of Architects  
Association of Energy Engineers  
Building Performance Association  
Business Council for Sustainable Energy  
California Efficiency and Demand Management Council  
Combined Heat and Power Alliance  
E4TheFuture  
Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance  
National Association of Energy Service Companies  
National Association of State Energy Officials  
North American Insulation Manufacturers Association  
U.S. Green Buildings Council