

**Aric Newhouse**

Senior Vice President  
Policy and Government Relations

July 8, 2015

U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to reject Amendment 13, offered by Representative Brenda Lawrence (D-MI), to H.R. 2822, the Department of the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2016.

States have long been the primary regulator of oil and gas exploration and production on non-federal lands. This system has allowed regulators to establish oil and gas programs tailored to unique regional environments and geology. Today, states are safely regulating hydraulic fracturing and responding to technological advancements as they occur.

Despite this record of success, the Department of the Interior (DOI) issued a new rule in March 2015 regulating hydraulic fracturing on federal and Native American lands. Section 439 of H.R. 2822 would allow existing state and tribal standards to remain in place and stop a duplicative layer of regulation for hydraulic fracturing on public and tribal lands. Amendment 13 would strike this important provision from the bill.

The NAM supports Section 439 because it will ensure that states continue to regulate hydraulic fracturing based on local geology and conditions on the ground. This approach has been effectively protecting our nation's environmental priorities while also allowing the development of our natural gas resources which have been critical to the revitalization of the manufacturing sector.

The NAM's Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on Amendment 13 to H.R. 2822, including procedural motions, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Aric Newhouse

Key Manufacturing Vote