

Aric Newhouse

Senior Vice President
Policy and Government Relations

July 18, 2017

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 support H.R. 806, the Ozone Standards Implementation Act of 2017, introduced by Rep. Pete Olson (R-TX).

As ozone levels have improved steadily over the past four decades—33 percent lower levels today than in 1980—and with new investments coming online utilizing the best and cleanest technologies available, our nation's improving air quality continues to be a major success story. However, the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) 2015 Final National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone present significant regulatory challenges for manufacturers across the country. EPA's new rule will cost the economy billions of dollars each year and, as testified to by state and local regulators at an Energy and Commerce Environment Subcommittee Hearing on March 22, 2017, set targets that are unreachable in parts of the country due to a lack of flexibility within the regulation and high levels of background or naturally occurring ozone. This will mean additional barriers to new investments, manufacturing competitiveness and job growth. Manufacturers need Congress to restore flexibility and reasonableness to this regulatory program.

H.R. 806 would ensure continued air quality improvements across the country, while better aligning the EPA's regulatory requirements with the realities of the economy, technology and existing policies. Additionally, it would establish a more realistic ten-year review period for future ozone and other air quality standards reviews, and allow for the EPA to consider whether a new air quality standard is technically feasible or not, before further revising it.

The NAM's Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on H.R. 806, including procedural motions, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 115th Congress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Aric Newhouse

Key Manufacturing Vote