

September 28, 2018

The Honorable John Katko
1620 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Moolenaar
117 Cannon House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Henry Cuellar
2209 Rayburn House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Katko, Moolenaar, and Cuellar:

The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) Coalition comprises a diverse group of trade associations and companies impacted by CFATS regulations. Coalition members represent major sectors of the American economy, including chemical production, chemical distribution and storage, manufacturing, oil and gas refining, utilities, mining, and agricultural goods and services. The businesses we represent are an integral part of the American economy, making our modern society possible. Our members have no higher priority than ensuring the safety and security of our products, our people, and our communities.

We applaud your leadership on this important security issue by introducing the “Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2018”. This legislation is an important marker in the reauthorization process, and we look forward to working with you and your colleagues to develop legislation that will provide additional improvements and efficiencies to the CFATS program. By reauthorizing the program for five years, the bill would provide needed certainty to the regulated community and enhance the security of our nation.

Since the inception of the CFATS program in 2007, our industries have invested millions of dollars and instituted thousands of new security measures at our facilities. The “Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act” of 2014 (P.L. 113-254), which for the first time provided CFATS a multi-year authorization, further enhanced these efforts by establishing regulatory certainty to both industry and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). This stability allowed DHS to increase efficiencies in the program while streamlining the information submission process for regulated facilities.

On January 19, 2019, the current authorization will expire. The CFATS Coalition wants to ensure the continued viability of the CFATS program without interruption and the introduction of the “Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2018” is a significant step in this process. Thank you for your leadership on this issue and we look forward to working with you towards a successful CFATS reauthorization.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Retailers Association
American Chemistry Council
American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers
American Gas Association
American Petroleum Institute

Edison Electric Institute
Institute of Makers of Explosives
International Liquid Terminals Association
International Warehouse Logistics Association
Interstate Natural Gas Association of America
National Association of Chemical Distributors
National Association of Manufacturers
National Mining Association
Society of Chemical Manufacturers & Affiliates
The Fertilizer Institute
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

cc: The Honorable Michael McCaul
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Bennie Thompson
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Greg Walden
Chairman
Committee on Energy & Commerce

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy & Commerce