

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 1, 2018

The Honorable Ron Johnson  
Chairman  
Committee on Homeland Security  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Claire McCaskill  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Homeland Security  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Michael McCaul  
Chairman  
Committee on Homeland Security  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bennie Thompson  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Homeland Security  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Johnson, Ranking Member McCaskill, Chairman McCaul, and Ranking Member Thompson:

We write to urge a swift reauthorization of the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS). This program was created by Congress in 2007 to help prevent terrorist attacks on high-risk chemical facilities. Administered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the program works with facilities to conduct vulnerability assessments and prepare site security plans. The program was last reauthorized in 2014 and its current authorization will expire in January 2019. We urge you to make reauthorization of CFATS an immediate priority within your committees to ensure the program does not lapse.

We recognize that the Government Accountability Office is actively reviewing the CFATS program and plans to release a report in late summer or early fall 2018. That report and the recommendations contained therein will no doubt be valuable to the reauthorization effort and should be taken into account before the legislation is finalized. However, we urge you to begin the process of holding any necessary hearings and drafting legislation immediately, to avoid letting the program lapse before it can be reauthorized.

As members of the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Chemistry Caucus, we support CFATS. It helps critically important industries target investment to their highest priority security needs. We urge you to provide CFATS with another multi-year authorization to give both DHS and covered industries the certainty they need to make long-term investments. We believe that the resulting legislation will enhance the resilience of critical economic sectors and the security our nation.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



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Daniel W. Lipinski  
Member of Congress



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John Moolenaar  
Member of Congress