

ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-2927
Minority (202) 225-3641

ACES: Putting Money in Homeowners' Pockets

July 8, 2009

On June 26, the House passed H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (ACES). Once enacted, this legislation will create new clean energy jobs, help us achieve energy independence and protect the environment for future generations.

ACES will dramatically improve the efficiency of our nation's buildings, reducing dangerous global warming pollution and saving families and businesses money every month on their energy bills.

ACES will help homeowners renovate existing homes to be more efficient. Many homeowners are interested in improving the efficiency of their homes, but find the upfront costs to be too expensive. ACES provides States with the financial resources to assist building owners who wish to undertake these retrofits. Owners can receive assistance of up to 50 percent of the cost of the retrofit. Historic buildings are eligible for even greater levels of assistance.

ACES includes strong standards for new buildings. The bill establishes national targets for energy efficiency in new residential and commercial buildings. The targets are robust and achievable with existing technologies. Homes that meet the new targets are estimated to save the new homeowners approximately \$500 each year. That's money in the pockets of your constituents instead of the energy companies.

ACES will save energy and save money. The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy has estimated that the building energy efficiency provisions described above will save consumers \$4.7 billion per year by 2020.

ACES imposes no requirements on homeowners. Nothing in ACES will impose new requirements on the owners of America's existing buildings. Nothing in the bill would impede home sales. No one will be required to make improvements, but building owners who desire can obtain assistance to increase efficiency and save money on their energy bills.

If you have any questions about H.R. 2454, please contact the Energy and Commerce Committee at 5-4407.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Waxman
Chairman