



SUPPORT HR 5518 – Authorization of the Department of Energy Clean Cities Program

January 8, 2020

Dear Members of the House Energy and Commerce Energy Subcommittee:

The undersigned organizations are writing on behalf of the more than 15,000 business, local and state government, and non-profit leaders we represent in the energy and transportation industries. We are writing in support of H.R. 5518, and urge a **yes vote** when it is considered by the Energy Subcommittee this week. Introduced by Congressman A. Donald McEachin, this legislation authorizes the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Clean Cities alternative fuels deployment program.

Authorized under the Energy Policy Act of 1992, DOE established the Clean Cities program as a partnership between public and private entities focused on deployment of alternative fuels, vehicles, and infrastructure. There are now approximately 90 coalitions in 45 states working with more than 15,000 stakeholders in the alternative fuels industry.

The Clean Cities program has been one of the nation's most effective tools in promoting the use of domestic fuel sources, improving local air quality, and deploying advanced vehicle technologies. The program has leveraged billions in private investment and unleashed American ingenuity and innovation to enable vehicles using electricity, natural gas, propane, biodiesel, ethanol, and hydrogen to take hold in the marketplace.

According to DOE annual reports from 2006 through 2018, the Clean Cities program leveraged \$298 million in program funding into \$2.6 billion in public and private investment in local alternative fuels deployment projects – that is nearly \$9.00 for every federal dollar invested. These funds are used in communities across America to help public and private sector fleets transition to cleaner fuels and vehicles, and to develop new alternative refueling infrastructure. There are now more than 1.7 million alternative fuel vehicles on the road in the United States and more than

80,000 alternative fueling stations.

In addition to enhancing our energy and environmental security, the energy and transportation industries are also critical to our economic growth and global competitiveness.

- There are more than 1 million plug-in electric vehicles on the road. The global market for lithium ion batteries will grow from \$30 billion in 2017 to more than \$100 billion by 2025. More than 200,000 employees currently work in the “motor vehicles and component parts” segment of the electric drive industry.
- The ethanol industry contributes about \$42 billion a year to our nation’s economy, including nearly 340,000 American jobs.
- Biodiesel has grown into a nearly 3 billion gallon per year industry with more than 100 plants across the country supporting more than 64,000 jobs and providing \$11.42 billion in economic impact.
- There are about 200,000 propane-powered vehicles on America’s roads, and a fleet of more than 12,000 propane-powered school buses is used to transport more than 700,000 children to school each day. The propane industry contributed \$46.2 billion to U.S. gross domestic product and employed 53,964 domestic workers in 2015.
- The electric power sector, which supports more than 7 million jobs, invests more than \$100 billion per year to build out smarter energy infrastructure – including charging and fueling stations.
- The U.S. is the number one producer of natural gas in the world, and American businesses and consumers continue to embrace natural gas vehicles. Approximately 175,000 natural gas vehicles operate on America’s roads today. These vehicles are supported by 1,824 fueling stations that are connected by 2.5 million miles of natural gas pipelines.
- Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) is helping decarbonize fuel, heat, power and pipelines. Over the last five years, RNG use as a transportation fuel has increased 577%, displacing more than 7 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) and growing America’s energy independence and security. There are currently 99 RNG facilities operating in the U.S. that have created more than 17,000 direct and indirect jobs. Another 90 new plants are under construction or in substantial development and they will create an additional 15,500 new direct and indirect jobs.

Again, we urge you to vote **YES** on H.R. 5518, when it is considered by the Energy Subcommittee this week. The Clean Cities Program has always enjoyed broad, bipartisan support and it is ideally positioned to continue to lead the United States toward a clean, secure, and resilient transportation future based on a diverse set of domestic transportation fuels that create and support millions of American jobs and businesses. Your leadership in supporting this bill will help us continue to move forward in building the next generation of transportation energy infrastructure.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alleyn Harned, President
Transportation Energy Partners (TEP)

David Terry, Executive Director
National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO)

Kurt Kovarik, Vice President of Federal Affairs
National Biodiesel Board (NBB)

Genevieve Cullen, President
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Daniel Gage, President
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Michael Baker, Director of Legislative Affairs
National Propane Gas Association (NPGA)

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Johannes Escudero, CEO & Executive Director
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Bill Schankel
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Natasha Vidangos, Vice President of Research and Analysis
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Michael Kiely, Senior Vice President-Managing Director, U.S. Government Affairs
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Todd Mouw, President
ROUSH CleanTech

Mitchell Pratt, Chief Operating Officer
Clean Energy Fuels Corp

Mark Terry, Chief Commercial Officer
Blue Bird (School Buses)