

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski Chairman Committee on Energy and Natural Resources United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Joe Manchin Ranking Member Committee on Energy and Natural Resources United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

August 23, 2019

Dear Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Manchin:

On behalf of NAIOP, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association, I write to express our strong support for the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act (S. 2137), introduced by Senators Rob Portman and Jeanne Shaheen.

NAIOP is the leading organization for developers, owners, investors and related professionals in office, industrial, retail and mixed-use real estate, and comprises 20,000 members and 48 chapters throughout the United States.

We commend Senators Portman and Shaheen for facilitating the numerous discussions that took place with a variety of stakeholders over the years in crafting the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act. As a result of this collaborative effort, S. 2137 reflects a balanced approach that provides commonsense solutions for promoting energy efficiency in buildings.

In order to develop effective building codes – and to ensure economically viable energy efficiency gains are achieved – initial costs and realistic payback periods must be taken into account. This legislation ensures that market realities are taken into account as efficiency targets are developed, in alignment with the economics inherent in the commercial real estate industry. We feel strongly that this approach is the best way for the federal government to promote energy efficiency in the built environment.

Thank you for your commitment to this important issue, and we look forward to working with the committee to advance this important legislation. For more information, please contact Alex Ford, Director of Federal Relations, at (703) 904-7100 or <u>ford@naiop.org</u>.

Sincerely,

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Thomas J. Bisacquino President and CEO NAIOP, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association