

# American Leadership in Refrigerant Innovation

H.R. 5544, 116th Congress

Sponsors: Paul Tonko (D-NY), Pete Olson (R-TX), Scott Peters (D-CA) & Elise Stefanik (R-NY)

"A U.S.-led transition to new refrigerant technologies will create tens of thousands of U.S. manufacturing jobs and \$12.5 billion new domestic manufacturing value every year for a decade, all while protecting consumers & our environment." – Rep. Paul Tonko

"This bill is a common-sense solution that will allow American companies to compete globally, improve our environment and provide needed certainty for a critical industry." – Rep. Pete Olson

#### America Leads the World in HVACR Innovation

- Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) have been used extensively as refrigerants, but a global transition away from HFCs to more environmentally friendly alternatives has already begun.
- American manufacturers are poised to lead the way in this transition to replace HFCs with nextgeneration technologies.
- Leaning into this transition would **add significantly to U.S. competitiveness, job creation & economic growth**, but only if Congress lays the groundwork for an orderly transition.
- **H.R. 5544** replicates success in phasing out chlorofluorocarbon (CFCs) and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), the predecessors of HFCs, which deplete the ozone layer. Using the same proven low-cost approach, **this bill phases down HFCs by 85% over 15 years.**

## **Economic Opportunities from the Phasedown**

- The U.S. Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration (HVACR) industry already contributes **2.5** million jobs and **\$158** billion in goods and services to our economy.
- A recent study by the University of Maryland found that a structured HFC phasedown will:
  - Create **33,000 new high-quality U.S. manufacturing jobs**;
  - o Add \$12.5 billion to the U.S. economy every year for the next decade; and
  - o **Increase exports by 25%** for U.S HVACR industries.
- Failure to lead will cede U.S. global market share to China and other foreign competitors and leave the U.S. market exposed to dumping of inferior foreign-manufactured products.

## Congress, Consumers and Industry Agree!

#### The American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Leadership Act

- The bill provides EPA with limited, discrete authority to phase down HFCs over a 15-year period and spurs investment in next-generation refrigerants by authorizing sector-based use restrictions.
- This approach ensures consumers enjoy a transition at minimal costs with no requirement to replace existing equipment before its end-of-life.
- A Senate companion bill, S. 2754, was introduced by **Sens. John Kennedy (R-LA) & Tom Carper (D-DE)**, and has received support from 32 bipartisan cosponsors.
- H.R. 5544 is a rare bipartisan win-win-win that will benefit American manufacturers, consumers, and the environment.

**Endorsed by:** U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Manufacturers, Natural Resources Defense Council, Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI), Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA), Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning Contractors National Association (SMACNA), and more.