



INSULATION • ASBESTOS REMOVAL
LEAD REMOVAL • FIRE STOPPING

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February 19, 2021

Maryland Senate
Budget and Taxation Committee
Chair : Guy J. Guzzone
Vice-Chair : James C. Rosapepe

FAVORABLE

SB 738 - Income Tax – Mechanical Insulation Installation Tax Credit

TBN Associates, Inc
Kenneth Graves, President
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Chairman Guzzone, Vice-Chair Rosapepe and members of the committee:

My name is Kenneth Graves; I am president of TBN Associates, Inc. We are a Maryland contractor based in Lanham, MD; we employ over 100 working men and women in the insulation industry. I am writing to you in SUPPORT of SB738.

Greenhouse gases trap heat and make the planet warmer. Human activities are responsible for almost all the increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere over the last 150 years. The largest source of greenhouse gas emissions from human activities in the United States is from burning fossil fuels for electricity, heat, and transportation.

According to the Department of Energy's buildings energy data book, U.S. buildings account for 39% of primary energy consumption and 72% of all electricity consumed domestically. Buildings accounted for more energy use than the entire U.S. transportation sector in 2006 and produced more greenhouse gases than any other country in the world except China.

Building emissions, as typically measured, are a combination of two things. First is day-to-day energy use—known as the “operational carbon emissions” that comes from powering lighting, heating, and cooling. Second is the amount of carbon generated through manufacturing building materials, transporting materials to construction sites, and the actual construction process—what is known as the “embodied carbon of a building”.

An energy efficient building could be a brand-new structure or an existing one retrofitted with new or upgraded mechanical insulation. In the United States about 95 percent of all

buildings are more than a decade old and 82 percent of all commercial buildings were built before 2000. Meanwhile, about half of the floor space of all buildings in the U.S. is heated by burning fossil fuels onsite.

Approximately two-thirds of the building area that exists today will still exist in 2050. Currently, building renovations affect only 0.5-1% of the building stock annually. A significant increase in the rate of existing building energy efficiency by repairing, placing, and upgrading mechanical insulation is a no brainer. Mechanical Insulation, when 100% complete, reduces energy costs, energy usage and reduces green-house gas emissions.

Reducing a building's carbon footprint reduces its running costs, improves employee morale, raises property values, and improves LEED scores. Buildings become environmentally responsible, profitable, and healthier places to live and work. I ask the committee votes FAVORABLY on SB738.

Sincerely and Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth Graves
President
TBN Associates, Inc