

RESNET PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 116TH CONGRESS (2019-2020)

WHY HOME ENERGY PERFORMANCE IS IMPORTANT

- Residential buildings represent the largest, primary energy usage in the United States.
- U.S. homeowners spend approx. \$230 billion annually on energy (not including transportation).
- Energy is a significant and growing cost of homeownership (~15%)
- University of North Carolina (UNC) 2013 study found that energy efficient homes had 30% lower default rate. Click on [Energy Efficient Homes Present Lower Mortgage Risks](#) for more information.
- Most homeowners would reinvest future energy savings into other household needs such as food, clothing, school activities, and deferred maintenance.

PROPOSED RESNET LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES:

Enactment of a Long-Term (10 year), Performance Based Tax Credit for Highly Efficient New Homes:

- The recently expired "45L" tax credit for new homes should be reviewed, modernized, and require third party verification for compliance.
- RESNET proposes a revised tax credit that is performance based, and aligned with the Section 406 of the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).

Enactment of a Performance Based Incentive for Homeowners to Significantly Improve the Energy Performance of Existing Homes:

- The "25C" tax credit for the purchase qualified energy improvements, has expired and appears will not be extended.
- RESNET proposes a performance based incentive program, based on a (25% or higher) percentage improvement of an existing home's energy performance. This future incentive would require third party verification for compliance.

Establish Additional Transparency for Federally (GME) Mortgages - allowing Consumers to calculate potential Energy Costs of future Home Purchases.

Pass The Sensible Accounting to Value Energy (SAVE) Act for the Consideration of Energy Savings in the Mortgage Loan.

- The SAVE Act adds the consideration of home energy performance in a federally insured mortgage loan. In the last Congress, this legislation ([Legislation Fact Sheet](#)) had broad bipartisan support, and passed the Senate with over 65 votes. Similar legislation is likely to be reintroduced by a coalition of business and energy efficiency advocates.

RESNET IS LAUNCHING A [PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY TOOL KIT](#) TO HELP THE HERS INDUSTRY AND ITS ALLIES ENGAGE WITH THEIR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS DURING THE 116TH CONGRESS.

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RESIDENTIAL ENERGY SERVICES NETWORK