

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE UTILITY CONSUMER ADVOCATES

Resolution 2017-07

URGING CONGRESS AND THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO MAINTAIN THE ENERGY STAR PROGRAM AND CONTINUE FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM

Whereas, the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (“NASUCA”) has a long-standing interest in the integrity and cost-effectiveness of energy efficiency upgrades as a means of keeping gas and electric service accessible and affordable; and

Whereas, NASUCA has adopted several resolutions intended to protect the interests of residential households regarding energy efficiency investments, including Resolution 2007-01, “Energy Conservation and Decoupling,” Resolution 2009-08, “Resolution on the U.S. Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program,” Resolution 2011-04, “Urging An Equitable Expenditure of Energy Efficiency Funds on Affordable Multifamily Housing Units,” and Resolution 2011-05, “Supporting a National Public Education Campaign to Transition to More Efficient Lighting”; and

Whereas, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s ENERGY STAR program is a voluntary labeling program designed to promote energy-efficient products to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and¹

Whereas, the ENERGY STAR program partners with 16,000 private and public sector organizations to deliver technical information and tools that organizations and consumers need to choose energy efficient solutions and best management practices;² and

Whereas, in 2014 the ENERGY STAR program supported 45,000 individual certified product models and certified over 87,000 new homes and 6,800 commercial buildings;³ and

Whereas, substantial portions of U.S. households recognize, understand and are influenced by the ENERGY STAR label and consistently associate the label with energy efficiency and saving energy and 45% of U.S. homes have purposely purchased an ENERGY STAR product in the past year;⁴ and

¹ <https://www.energystar.gov/about/history>.

² https://www.energystar.gov/sites/default/files/asset/document/ENERGYSTAR_2014AnnualReport_508_0.pdf

³ https://www.energystar.gov/sites/default/files/asset/document/ENERGYSTAR_2014AnnualReport_508_0.pdf

⁴ Consortium for Energy Efficiency, “National Awareness of ENERGY STAR for 2016 Analysis of CEE Household Survey,” ES-2,

https://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.downloadFile&file=64B935F36705331DC23D594CCF31697B7B3B3E055EDDE8B838BE7755C7A1500EDE9BDBC90BBAB0D34273C3BB5181EE28E2EFD991C6F9F5041BA207C8FB6A911CC1043619861DDBA2FFA2BA5A977F77681D49A5DE1C473EB296136777A2E6D172922A8B7F8FACF5E372F0079F4EC8FF62&app_code=publications&env_name=prod

Whereas, through 2014 the ENERGY STAR program provided \$362 billion in cumulative utility bill savings for consumers;⁵ and

Whereas, Utility and state sponsored programs in over 25 states incorporate benchmarking and other ENERGY STAR tools and resources into their energy efficiency programs;⁶ and

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that NASUCA declares its strong support for the ENERGY STAR programs as a successful public-private partnership which supports important elements of energy efficiency programs and creates substantial savings for consumers, and urges Congress to preserve funding for this successful and important program; and

And, be it further resolved, that NASUCA authorizes its Executive Committee to develop specific positions and to take appropriate actions consistent with the terms of this resolution. The Executive Committee shall advise the membership of any proposed action prior to taking such action, if possible, and shall notify the membership of any action taken pursuant to the resolution.

Submitted by Distributed Energy Resources Committee

Approved by the Membership June 5, 2017

Denver, Colorado

Abstaining:

Tennessee

⁵ https://www.energystar.gov/sites/default/files/asset/document/ENERGYSTAR_2014AnnualReport_508_0.pdf

⁶ https://www.energystar.gov/sites/default/files/tools/Directory_of_Energy_Efficiency_Programs_Leveraging_Energy_Star_August201..._0.pdf