NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

The Voice For Real Estate®

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June 26, 2009

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative:

The National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) supports H.R. 2998, the American Clean Energy and Security Act (Waxman, D-CA), which addresses a broad and global array of issues. Our commitment to energy efficient communities is exemplified by building Washington DC's first green commercial building. Many of our 1.2 million members have received green specialist designations to further help homebuyers select energy efficient homes. We are especially supportive of the building energy labeling provision in section 204 that would mitigate the negative impacts on consumers, property owners and the real estate market in the midst of a nascent economic recovery.

The provision, championed by Representative Perlmutter (D-CO) and included in the manager's amendment, would limit the building energy labeling program to new construction. This is a critical provision that avoids stigmatizing existing homes and commercial buildings or imposing disproportionate impacts on modest-income families, elderly homeowners, and rural and older communities across the nation. Additionally we applaud Section 202 that will provide property owners with the financial retrofit incentives and tools they need to improve their home or building and save money on their energy bills.

In closing, the National Association of REALTORS® urges your strong support of this important provision in the manager's amendment and we urge favorable passage of H.R. 2998, the American Clean Energy and Security Act when it is considered on the House floor.

Sincerely,

Charles McMillan, CIPS, GRI
2009 President
National Association of REALTORS®

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