S. 1038 – Energy Star Program Integrity Act

The Energy Star Program Integrity Act (<u>S. 1038</u>) was introduced in the U.S. Senate by Sen. James Risch (R-Idaho) on April 22, 2015. An identical version of the bill was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives (<u>H.R. 504</u>) by Rep. Robert Latta (R-Ohio) in 2015. That bill enjoys bipartisan support and is co-sponsored by Alliance Honorary Board Members Rep. Peter Welch (D-Vt.), Rep. David McKinley (R-W.Va.), and Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-III.), among others. Most recently, it was featured in Section 3124 of <u>H.R. 8</u>, the House's comprehensive energy bill.

Summary

This bill would amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act so that participation of a product in the <u>ENERGY STAR Program</u> does not lead to the creation of a warranty that would allow private claims or rights of action against manufacturers. The effect of the bill would apply to products disqualified from ENERGY STAR if three elements are met:

- 1. The product has been certified by an ENERGY STAR-recognized certification body.
- 2. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved corrective measures, including determining if the consumer requires compensation.
- 3. The responsible party has fully complied with all corrective measures.

This bill specifically does not require EPA to modify any of the program's procedures or take any explicit action.