

July 5, 2023

The Honorable Mark Green
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bennie Thompson
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Green and Ranking Member Thompson:

The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) Coalition respectfully requests that your Committee report a long-term, multi-year, clean reauthorization of CFATS in time for the full Congress to act before the program expires on July 27, 2023.

The CFATS Coalition is comprised of a diverse group of trade associations and companies that support the CFATS program. Coalition members represent major sectors of the American economy, including chemical production, chemical distribution and storage, manufacturing, oil and gas refining, utilities, mining, and agricultural goods and services.

For the past 12 years, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has worked with our industries to develop a program that is considered the global standard for chemical security. The program's primary mission is to help to reduce the risk of a terrorist attack on chemical facilities by addressing a wide range of potential terrorist threats, including cyberattacks.

CFATS provides a uniform, national program for regulating chemical security. Continuity of this framework provides the certainty required for the considerable planning and investment decisions that are needed to protect both our facilities and the surrounding communities. Allowing CFATS to expire would open the door for agencies with no anti-terrorism expertise to fill the void, or a patchwork of state and local regulations that may vary widely in scope and effectiveness. This could result in inconsistent anti-terrorism standards across the country and could undermine national security.

We believe that a long-term, multi-year, clean reauthorization is needed to maintain this vital and effective program. Long-term reauthorization is not only in the best interests of protecting our industries, but for our country.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Retailers Association
American Chemistry Council
American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers
American Gas Association
American Petroleum Institute
Interstate Natural Gas Association of America

International Warehouse Logistics Association
National Association of Chemical Distributors
National Mining Association
Society of Chemical Manufacturers & Affiliates
The Fertilizer Institute
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

cc: Members of the House Committee on Homeland Security