



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

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Sheila J. Hayter, P.E., FASHRAE
President

Reply to: Nat'l Renewable Energy Lab
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May 7, 2019

The Honorable John Alexander
The Honorable Rick Horner
Senate Standing Committee on State and Local Government
North Carolina General Assembly
Legislative Building
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

RE: H.B. 330, "The Efficient Government Buildings & Savings Act of 2019"

Dear Chairs Alexander and Horner:

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is a global society of over 57,000 members, including about 1,100 in North Carolina, committed to shaping tomorrow's built environment today. ASHRAE focuses on improving building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration and sustainability through research, standards writing, publishing, certification and continuing education.

As the ASHRAE President, I urge the North Carolina Senate to support H.B. 330, the Efficient Government Buildings & Savings Act of 2019. This critical legislation would not only save the state over a quarter of a billion dollars by 2025, but reduce energy consumption by a further ten percent over the next five years. As the Senate considers the legislation, ASHRAE also recommends that you consider the most recent version ASHRAE standard 90.1 in Section 3(b) if it is technically feasible. As currently written the legislation references ASHRAE 90.1-2004 as the baseline. However, this consensus based energy-efficiency standard was last updated in 2016.

By centering on building renovations like tighter air seals, lighting replacements and HVAC improvements, the legislation aligns with ASHRAE's policy to improve energy efficiency and utilization in HVAC&R technology and building systems. Additionally, enforcing the requirements across all state agencies ensures that North Carolina will maximize investments made by taxpayers, reduce long-term operations and maintenance costs, and improve overall energy productivity in the state. In particular, ASHRAE is pleased the legislation will require all buildings greater than 20,000 square feet, and over ten years old, to evaluate their potential for energy performance contracts. Assessing, and possibly retrofitting, existing buildings to improve energy performance will be key in reducing emissions and meeting future climate commitments.

Finally, as you continue work on improving the energy efficiency of public buildings, ASHRAE would be pleased to share our expertise on the best way to develop building standards, codes, and policies that emphasize these vital outcomes. We look forward to working with the state of North Carolina as it works on developing more energy efficient buildings and we hope that the passage of H.B.330 is the next step for the state to achieve success in this area.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments on H.B. 330. If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff contact GovAffairs@ashrae.org.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheila J. Hayter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "S".

Sheila J. Hayter, PE, FASHRAE
ASHRAE President SY2018-19