

September 6, 2023

To the Members of the United States Senate:

The undersigned trade associations and companies (collectively the “CFATS Coalition”) urge you to swiftly consider and approve H.R. 4470, House-passed legislation to reauthorize for two years the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program that expired on July 27, 2023.

The CFATS Coalition comprises trade associations and companies regulated by 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. The businesses we represent and the goods they produce are vital to the American economy and our quality of life.

When authorized, the CFATS program promotes security by providing facility risk assessments, guidance to companies about their security plans and policies, and vetting personnel against the terrorist screening database. For example, in the past month, 9,000 new individuals have not been screened for terrorist ties. CFATS minimizes the opportunities for threat actors to do harm to our facilities, workers, and the surrounding communities. The expiration of CFATS weakens our nation’s security posture. Our members will continue to make investments and decisions to strengthen facility security to the best of their knowledge and ability. However, these efforts are much stronger with CFATS, which allows the private sector and federal partners to work together.

Passing H.R. 4470 is a pragmatic solution to reestablish this important security program. H.R. 4470 cleanly extends the CFATS program for 2 years. It passed the House on July 25th by a vote of 409-1.

We stand ready to work with you to reauthorize the CFATS program as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

CFATS Coalition
Agricultural Retailers Association
American Chemistry Council
American Coatings Association
American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers
American Gas Association
American Petroleum Institute
The Chlorine Institute
Edison Electric Institute
The Fertilizer Institute
International Warehouse Logistics Association

Interstate Natural Gas Association of America
National Association of Chemical Distributors
National Association of Manufacturers
National Industrial Transportation League
National Mining Association
National Tank Truck Carriers
Radiopharmaceutical Shippers & Carriers Committee
Society of Chemical Manufacturers & Affiliates
The Sulphur Institute
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

cc: The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Speaker of the House
The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries, House Democratic Leader
The Honorable Mark E. Green M.D., Chairman, House Committee on Homeland Security
The Honorable Bennie Thompson, Ranking Member, House Committee on Homeland Security