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JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
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SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP COMMITTEE
MEMBER

April 6, 2021

The Honorable Joseph Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C., 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your attention to energy efficiency, resiliency, and clean energy in America's built environment. We support your administration's commitment to addressing sustainability in federal facilities and encourage you to include a performance contracting challenge of at least \$5 billion over four years in a future sustainability commitment.

Congressionally required audits of our federal facilities have identified at least \$8 billion in energy conservation measures that need to be addressed. The *Energy Act of 2020*, which was signed into law as part of the *Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021* (P.L. 116-260), mandates that those audits lead to projects if they are cost-effective. Further, the law mandates the use of performance contracting to address at least half of the value of the projects identified.

Energy Savings Performance Contracts (ESPCs) and Utility Energy Service Contracts (UESCs) pay for energy efficiency improvements through guaranteed energy and water savings without increasing costs to taxpayers. For every dollar of federal funding, \$5 to \$10 of private sector financing can be leveraged. The General Services Administration owns and leases 9,600 buildings nationwide, making it the largest landlord and tenant in the United States, and the Department of Defense has accounted for more than half of the \$27.3 billion in private sector investment through ESPCs and UESCs since the program's inception.

In 2011, a Federal Performance Contracting Challenge was undertaken as a part of the Better Building Initiative, which ensured that agencies were able to maximize energy and water savings using private sector expertise and financing. This effort was highly successful, surpassing the goal of raising \$4 billion in private investment over five years. By supporting performance contracting, we believe your Administration can achieve additional efficiency, resiliency, renewable on-site generation, and greenhouse gas emissions reductions, while creating thousands of trade jobs.

As you continue to focus on our country's economic recovery, we encourage you to support a performance contracting challenge to help leverage private funding, create clean energy jobs, and

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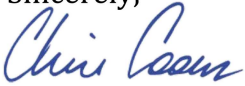
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support your commitment to increase energy efficiency in federal facilities. We look forward to working with you to on this important initiative.

Sincerely,



Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator

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