



Industrial Energy Consumers of America

The Voice of the Industrial Energy Consumers

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October 8, 2015

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: H.R. 702, To adapt to changing crude oil market conditions

On behalf of the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA), we oppose H.R. 702 because it repeals Section 103 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act. Section 103 gives the President the ability to restrict exports of petroleum products, natural gas, petrochemical feedstocks, and coal in the event of unforeseen circumstances to protect the national interests of the country. This is a vital Executive Branch responsibility that should be maintained for the welfare of the country.

The recent collapse of the global crude oil market that was not anticipated by anyone, confirms the need to maintain Section 103. It illustrates how the global market for crude oil and natural gas can change very quickly with significant positive or negative implications for the U.S. economy. The majority of the global crude oil supply is controlled by OPEC countries that can have very different economic and/or political motivations which determine how much crude oil or natural gas they produce, which directly impacts the price of these vital energy sources to U.S. consumers. By design, OPEC countries desire to control the market and maintain high prices long-term, which is counter to U.S. national interests and free markets.

IECA is not opposed to crude oil exports as long as the volume of exports is in the public and national interest. Section 103 provides the needed common sense safety net that the country expects and deserves.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Cicio
President

cc: U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Ernest Moniz

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$1.0 trillion in annual sales, over 2,900 facilities nationwide, and with more than 1.4 million employees worldwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through advocacy and collaboration for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: chemical, plastics, steel, iron ore, aluminum, paper, food processing, fertilizer, insulation, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, building products, brewing, independent oil refining, and cement.