

Climate Change/Energy Legislation

The U.S. House of Representatives squeaked out a historic legislative victory on June 26, when the House voted, 219-212, to approve H.R. 2454 & H.R. 2998, the "American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009," a comprehensive global warming bill that sets mandatory limits on U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.

Included is a provision that AUTHORIZES (not funds) a federal wood stove changeout program to be managed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It authorizes \$20 million over five years: 72% for national changeout programs, 25% Tribal, and 3% Alaskan Native Villages. The drive for congressional introduction of this changeout legislation was due in large part to the efforts of the Capitol Hill visits conducted during the recent Government Affairs Academy in Arlington, Virginia.

Funding NSPS

HPBA's Executive Committee made, and the Board of Directors approved, funding recommendations for the NSPS wood stove certification program that will be used by HPBA for NSPS research and responses to protect the industry from excessive regulation. Funding would be capped at \$600,000 and would be shared 50/50 by HPBA and special assessments on solid fuel product manufacturers. It was recommended that affiliates assess their members 10% for the fund. All solid fuel hearth manufacturers, including related products such as hearth pads, accessories and venting companies, will receive a detailed explanation in July. For more information, contact Allan Cagnoli at cagnoli@hpba.org.

Codes & Standards

The CSA B415 Canada Standard, which is similar to EPA wood stove certification, is currently being revised. This standard also includes larger units such as furnaces. The CSA B415 committee will send the document out for public review/comment soon. It has been suggested that EPA may utilize B415 in writing the next New Source Performance Standard (NSPS), which will set emission guidelines for all burning products. With this possibility, there are obvious concerns about testing procedures and other items.

Keene, NH, Wood Stove Changeout

HPBA and Northeast HPBA are working with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) to plan a changeout for the town of Keene in 2010. Although the program is still in the early planning stages, NH, will receive some funding from a Supplemental Environmental Program (SEP) settlement with American Electric Power that can be used to

reduce wood smoke there. DES will hold a meeting in Keene on July 15 with town leaders, and is still assessing the boundaries and incentives of the program.

Oregon Passes "Heat Smart" Bill

Gov. Ted Kulongoski signed the "Heat Smart Bill" introduced by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) on June 18. This legislation requires the removal of uncertified wood stoves from homes when sold and creates a Residential Wood Heating Air Quality Improvement Fund to be used for local changeouts, education and enforcement. Oregon HPBA board members Fred Kirkpatrick and John Frankel and OHPBA Executive Director Harvey Gail testified before state legislators in support of the bill, and OHPBA's lobbyists Steve West and Harvey Gail met with ODEQ and Oregon legislators to ensure their interests were addressed. The bill also allows the Environmental Quality Commission to regulate exempt stoves and lower emissions standards. The OHPBA will be involved in the rulemaking process. For more information, please contact Harvey Gail at harvey@vannattapr.com.

HPBA Wins Press Event Award!

HPBA and its public relations consultants, Strat@comm, have been awarded the 2009 Bronze Anvil Award in the Press Conference category by the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) for their work promoting the Libby Wood Stove Changeout Program press conference and clean burn demonstration held outside the U.S. EPA in January 2008. It resulted in numerous print stories, 49 radio interviews, 21 television placements, and an in-studio segment on ABC's Good Morning America called, "Heat Your Home, Spare the Planet." Only one Bronze Anvil is awarded in each of 36 categories and subcategories.

PFI Conference Update

The Pellet Fuels Institute (PFI) is counting down to its annual conference, to be held July 26-28 at the Sawgrass Golf Resort & Spa in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. Members from around the industry will participate in 2-1/2 days of networking and educational seminars on topics such as the benefits of biomass, production of pellets from roundwood and chips, standards programs and fire prevention and protection. To learn more about the conference, including how to register, visit the PFI website at www.pelletheat.org.

Committee Activities

Communications

- The HPBA website has received an extensive "facelift" and we encourage you to visit

www.hpba.org and explore the improved site for news and updates.

- We are expecting a strong media demand for biomass-fueled hearth product photos this fall, so please send your high-definition photos to Deidra Darsa at darsa@hpba.org.
- Please send your new indoor gas fireplace photos to Deidra Darsa at darsa@hpba.org to be used in a November magazine issue on "The Ease of Gas Fireplaces in the Home."

HPB Education Foundation/NFI

- In just a few weeks, many retailers will be gearing up for the busy fall season. A great resource for new and intermediate level employees, *Hearth 101* and *Using Hearth 101*, are available to HPBA members. The popular *Hearth 101* guidebooks have been updated and reorganized this year. Visit http://www.hpbef.org/HPBEF_products.html for detailed descriptions and ordering information.
- He@rth Online Training also offers three 90-minute sessions based on *Hearth 101*. Classes can be purchased separately or as part of a subscription that gives you access to all of the live classes and a large selection of OnDemand classes, including selected recordings from Expo Education sessions. Visit the He@rth Online Training section at www.hpbef.org.

Industry Statistics

- The HPBA Quarterly Industry Survey for the second quarter has been distributed. This is the first time the survey will include biomass central-heating systems, and we encourage members to respond quickly.
- The Manufacturers' Rep Survey for the second quarter has been distributed. Please respond quickly.
- The first phase of the Barbecue Grill and Charcoal Shipment data collection request are now out. Please respond promptly. For information on these items, please contact Don Johnson at johnson@hpba.org.

Membership

Since 2006, HPBA has worked with Stratus Insurance Services Inc. and Security Group International Inc. (SGI) to offer our members competitive rates for business liability protection. HPBA members benefit from the experience and professionalism Stratus and SGI provide, and receive additional discounts for NFI certified staff. The HPBA insurance program now offers additional insurance products, including tool coverage. Please contact Melanie Stott at (866)395-1308, by e-mail mstott@stratusins.com or visit our website www.hpba.org/members/member-benefits to find out more information on the HPBA Insurance program.



HPBExpo Report

Orlando, FL • March 10 - 13, 2010 • www.hpbexpo.com
Innovations & Ideas for Indoor-Outdoor Living

Be sure to mark your calendar for the HPBExpo 30th year Anniversary celebration in Orlando, FL, March 10-13, 2010.

HPBExpo Exhibit Space. Our post-show survey reported that 80% of attendees that responded are optimistic about the future of their businesses. Please go to www.hpbexpo.com and click on "Apply To Exhibit" for booth availability, pricing, floor plans, contracts and rules. For more information, contact Amy Jackson at amyjackson@hpba.org.



Attention Exhibitors! If you're interested in donating products for the Attendee Early Registration Giveaway, please contact Amy Jackson at amyjackson@hpba.org. This is a great way to advertise your company's Expo participation. All donations will be listed on the show website and highlighted onsite.

Show Floor Features. HPBExpo 2010 will again feature the highly visited New Product Pavilion. For more information or for entry forms, contact Betteanne Leahy at leahy@hpba.org. New this year is HPBExpo's Green Pavilion. More information on this exciting new feature will be available in the near future. All pavilion participants will be featured in a special section in the *HPBExpo Show Program & Exhibit Guide*.

HPBExpo 2010 Website. The website's content is updated monthly, so bookmark the site and periodically check out what's new. Watch for the September 1 opening of housing, badge registration, HPBExpo discounted Disney tickets and more. Exhibitors - click on "Exhibitor Services" for important deadlines, exhibitor forms and updated floor plans.

HPBExpo can now be found on both Facebook and Twitter! Become a fan on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/HPBExpo/182719555415>) and follow us on Twitter (http://www.twitter.com/hpbexpo_2010) for all of the latest HPBExpo news and updates!

Upcoming HPBExpo Dates

We are excited to announce HPBExpo's future host cities and look forward to seeing you there!

2011 – March 2-5 - Salt Lake City, UT

2012 – February 29 - March 3 - Atlanta, GA

2013 – March 20-23 - Nashville, TN (Downtown - Music City Center)

2014 – March 19-22 - Orlando, FL



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HOTNEWS

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