

Testimony to the  
U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Regarding the  
Appliance Standards Improvement Act of 2009

On 19 March, 2009



By the  
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My name is Richard D. Upton, and I am the President/CEO of the American Lighting Association (ALA).

The ALA is vertically structured and represents the residential decorative lighting industry. Our membership includes the designers, manufacturers, manufacturers' sales representatives and independent retail lighting showrooms that manufacture and sell lighting, lighting controls and ceiling fan products in the United States, Canada and the Caribbean. Our membership includes 1,500 business members. Our office is located in Dallas, Texas.

Attending the hearing are nine members of our association, including Mr. Paul Eusterbrock, the chairman of our association's Board of Governors.

We are here to join with the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) and the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) to speak in favor of the Bill and to respectfully encourage you to pass it.

The first action to gain energy efficiency in portable fixtures began at the California Energy Commission (CEC) in 2008.

The CEC has been directed by the California Legislature to reduce the energy consumption of indoor residential lighting by 50 percent by 2018. Over the last several years, they have taken actions to meet their objective, and in 2008, one of their focuses was on portable lighting fixtures. The ALA, advocates of energy efficiency, the CEC staff and others worked together successfully over several months and delivered a series of recommendations to reduce the energy consumption of portable fixtures.

Those recommendations were adopted by the CEC and, for the most part, have been incorporated into this proposed Bill.

Because government, advocates and the lighting industry were able to develop and support an agreed upon set of requirements for portable fixtures, we believe we will gain a favorable buy-in by California consumers, leading to an effective market transformation.

The ALA, the ACEEE and NEMA have come together to recommend that the favorable actions taken by the CEC be implemented nationally. By doing so, the country will benefit with an effective energy efficient program for portable fixtures, and our industry will be able to design and manufacture them based on a single set of energy efficiency specifications.

The latter is very important to portable lighting manufacturers. This segment of the industry is made up of many very small companies, and they cannot be successful if they are faced with multiple rules, regulations and reporting requirements by various states.

One of the most positive aspects of the Bill is that there are several pathways manufacturers can follow that will provide consumers choices and options in the energy-efficient portable lighting they purchase. We believe this is especially important because portable lighting is, to a large extent, a decorative purchase.

Portable fixture pathways include:

1. A fluorescent light fixture that meets ENERGY STAR® 4.2 requirements
2. A light fixture equipped with only GU-24 sockets, not rated for incandescent lamps
3. An LED light fixture with:
  - A minimum of 200 lumens
  - A minimum light engine efficacy of 40 lumens per watt installed in fixtures with an efficacy of 29 lumens per watt or, alternatively, a light engine efficacy of 60 lumens per watt for fixtures that do not have an efficacy of 29 lumens per watt
  - A minimum LED light fixture efficacy of 29 lumens per watt and a minimum LED light engine efficacy of 60 lumens per watt by January 1, 2016.
4. A light fixture boxed with ENERGY STAR screw-based compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) or LED lamps for each socket that are fully compatible with fixture controls (i.e. dimmable, three-way, etc.)
5. A light fixture with single-ended non-screw-based halogen lamp sockets with a dimmer or low control and limited to 100 watts

These options are also important in allowing the consumer to achieve the proper application of lighting in their home.

We note the Secretary of the Department of Energy is charged to review the regulations and recommend changes that may be needed. We believe those reviews are appropriate, in the time frames outlined, because of expected changes and advancements in the industry.

We again want to thank NEMA and the ACEEE for working cooperatively with us so we can bring you our collective endorsement of this Bill.

Thank you for receiving our comments.

Respectfully submitted for the American Lighting Association,



Richard D. Upton, CCE  
President/CEO