



Consumer Federation of America

March 6, 2024

Senator Norman Needleman, Co-Chair
Energy and Technology Committee
Connecticut General Assembly

Rep. Jonathan Steinberg, Co-Chair
Energy and Technology Committee
Connecticut General Assembly

Submitted via: <https://www.cga.ct.gov/et>

RE: Support for S.B. No. 301, An Act Concerning Energy Efficiency Standards and Grants for Retrofitting Projects

Dear Co-Chairs Norman Needleman and Jonathan Steinberg, Vice Chairs Douglas McCrory and Jaime S. Foster, Ranking Members Ryan Fazio and Bill Buckbee, and Committee Members:

The Consumer Federation of America (CFA) is writing in support of S.B. No. 301, appliance efficiency standards legislation. We are pleased your committee is holding a hearing on this bill which will benefit consumers and help protect them from higher utility bills.

By way of background, CFA is an association of approximately 250 nonprofit consumer organizations that was established in 1968 to advance the consumer interest through research, advocacy, and education. We have long advocated for cost-effective energy and water efficiency standards at the state and federal levels as these standards benefit consumers through lower utility bills.

We support S.B. No. 301, which would update state energy and water efficiency standards for 13 appliances and other equipment products. S.B. No. 301 is a great opportunity to reduce energy waste, lower consumer utility bills, and help reduce greenhouse gases. According to a recent analysis by the Appliance Standards Awareness Project, this legislation could save Connecticut consumers over \$36 million on utility bills in 2030, and annual savings would grow to \$93 million in 2040. If toilets and urinals are added by amendment, the savings to Connecticut consumers will be \$39 million in 2030 and \$98 million in 2024.

CFA urges you to adopt this cost-effective, pro-consumer bill-it is a win-win-win for Connecticut.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Courtney Griffin
Director of Consumer Product Safety
Consumer Federation of America