December 18, 2013

Sen. John Boozman  
320 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Sen. Joe Manchin  
303 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Boozman and Manchin,

The undersigned members of the American Alliance for Innovation (AAI), a large and diverse coalition of trade associations representing a broad spectrum of the American economy, are writing in support of your recently introduced bipartisan legislation, the *EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act.*

We believe it is important that chemicals and metals producers, manufacturers, distributors, importers, users, and consumers are confident that there is a transparent and consistent federal process for assessing chemicals that is grounded in sound science and delivers timely results. Oversight of the safe production and use of chemicals affects us all, which is why we support your efforts to improve the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Science Advisory Board (SAB) and its committees.

The SAB is a critical part of the EPA’s quality control process that was established to ensure that the Agency produces credible and scientifically sound results to help guide regulatory decisions at all levels of government. We all agree, therefore, that the SAB must provide meaningful, balanced, and independent reviews of the science conducted and used by EPA, and we support advancing your bill in this Congress.

Like its companion in the House, H.R. 1422, we are encouraged to see that this legislation takes into account public policy recommendations from the National Academy of Sciences and the Bipartisan Policy Council, as well as input that Congress has received from numerous experts and stakeholders. Your legislation will help EPA to continue to improve the Agency’s chemical assessment programs by greatly enhancing the current peer review process in many important ways, including strengthening policies to address conflicts of interest, all while ensuring that a wide range of scientific perspectives are represented on panels. The bill will also increase the utility of SAB panels by improving the process for public engagement and ensuring that scientific concerns are clearly addressed and communicated.

We are committed to working with you, your cosponsors, and other members of the Senate to move this legislation forward, and we urge all members of Congress to support its timely passage.

Sincerely,
Adhesive and Sealant Council
Alkylphenols & Ethoxylates Research Council
American Chemistry Council
American Composites Manufacturers Association
American Farm Bureau Federation®
American Fiber Manufacturers Association
American Forest & Paper Association
American Gas Association
American Road & Transportation Builders Association
American Wood Council
Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association
Composite Panel Association
Corn Refiners Association
CropLife America
EPS Industry Alliance
Fashion Jewelry & Accessories Trade Association
Global Cold Chain Alliance
Halogenated Solvents Industry Alliance, Inc.
Industrial Minerals Association North America
Institute of Makers of Explosives
International Association of Refrigerated Warehouses
International Institute of Synthetic Rubber Producers, Inc.
International Warehouse Logistics Association
Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association
Methanol Institute
National Association for Surface Finishing
National Association of Chemical Distributors
National Association of Manufacturers
National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Oilseed Processors Association
National Pest Management Association
National Stone Sand and Gravel Association
National Tank Truck Carriers, Inc.
Nickel Institute
Oregon Women In Timber
Pine Chemicals Association, Inc.
Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association
Plastics Pipe Institute
RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment)
Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates
Specialty Graphic Imaging Association
SPRI, Inc.
Styrene Information & Research Center
The Chlorine Institute
The Fertilizer Institute
The Vinyl Institute
Toy Industry Association
Treated Wood Council
Utility Solid Waste Activities Group
Window and Door Manufacturers Association