

National Association of State Energy Officials

Board of Directors Resolution Supporting Quality Installation of Residential Energy Efficiency Projects

WHEREAS, the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) and our 56 governor-designated State and Territory Energy Office members have long recognized the importance of cost-effective residential energy efficiency;

WHEREAS, most State Energy Offices oversee residential energy efficiency policies, programs, and public-private financing initiatives that encourage the adoption of emerging energy efficiency technologies and underutilized commercially available energy efficiency technologies;

WHEREAS, State Energy Office residential energy efficiency actions rely on each states' private sector home contractors and building product manufacturers, who are crucial partners in recruiting program participants, installing energy-efficient equipment, ensuring customer satisfaction, and increasing the likelihood of program success;

WHEREAS, State Energy Office residential energy efficiency activities help homeowners improve their property values, lower the costs of heating and cooling their homes, and create a more comfortable and healthy living environment for themselves and their families;

WHEREAS, both established and cutting-edge heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning technologies, if improperly installed, may fail to realize important benefits for homeowners;

WHEREAS, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) found substantial losses of up to 30 percent in heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) equipment efficiency due to installation deficiencies and faulty work;

WHEREAS, the repercussions associated with poor equipment installation may: reduce energy cost savings, negatively impact indoor air quality and occupant comfort benefits that would be realized otherwise by a high-quality installation;

WHEREAS, poor equipment installation may make homeowners less likely to pursue energy equipment upgrades in the future and jeopardize the ability of the homeowner to pay for the cost of such projects financed based on expected energy cost savings;

WHEREAS, contractors accredited by professional associations such as Air-Conditioning Contractors of America or Advanced Energy are more likely to install energy efficiency projects according to industry-driven quality installation standards;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, NASEO encourages the State Energy Offices to consider linking HVAC industry-recognized quality installation practices with state programs and policies in the following ways:

- Encouraging homeowners that use State, taxpayer-funded grant, incentive, and financing programs to utilize qualified, trained, and accredited professionals available in the state;
- Informing homeowners, efficiency program operators, and others of the benefits of utilizing qualified, trained, and accredited professionals.
- Engaging the HVAC industry to help educate contractors on quality installation practices such as proper equipment sizing and selection, duct design and sealing, proper refrigerant charges, and airflows; and
- Implementing quality assurance programs that ensure manufacturers' recommended minimum installation procedures are followed.