



April 23, 2018

Representative Bill Shuster  
 Chairman, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee  
 United States House of Representatives  
 2268 Rayburn HOB  
 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Shuster:

The Safe Battery/Products Transportation Coalition represents companies and associations of companies that manufacture, use, and transport lithium cells and batteries and products containing them. Those products include: laptops, cellular phones, portable music/video devices, navigation/GPS systems, cameras, smoke/security alarms, home appliances, hybrid electric and all-electric vehicles, power tools, pacemakers, defibrillators, spinal cord stimulators, portable oxygen concentrators and blood glucose monitors. The lithium cells and batteries industry provides tens of thousands of jobs and billions of dollars of economic contribution to the U.S. economy.

The Coalition supports enactment of H.R. 4, as reported from the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, without amendment to Section 509. That section addresses the safe transportation of lithium cells and batteries. Coalition members take great care in assuring the safety or shipments of these products. The bill, which that has been reported under your leadership, encourages safety without disrupting supply chains or increasing consumer costs.

Section 509 of H.R. 4 contains several essential provisions:

- Section 509(e) will assure industry participation in all panels and working groups of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Dangerous Goods Panel and any other international test or standard setting organization in which the United States participates, which is essential to providing those organizations with technical information and expertise, notwithstanding recent efforts by some ICAO staff to limit such participation.
- Consistent with Section 828 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, and to avoid burdensome, patchwork regulations, Section 509(f) requires U.S. regulations be harmonized with ICAO standards.
- Section 509(b) creates a Lithium Battery Air Safety Advisory Committee to ensure, among other things, transparency in the development of the U.S. position before ICAO meetings.
- Section 509(c) provides the Secretary of Transportation with authority to authorize the shipment on passenger aircraft of batteries used to power medical devices in circumstances where a destination cannot be reached by commercial cargo aircraft and a patient needs life-critical batteries.

The Coalition encourages the House to reject any effort to amend Section 509 as it moves forward to consider and pass H.R. 4.

Respectfully,

Safe Battery/Products Transportation Coalition

\*\*\* The members of the Safe Battery/Products Coalition include: AdvaMed, Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM), Boston Scientific, Cargo Airline Association (CAA), Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association (CTIA), Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), Intel, Medical Device Battery Transport Council (MDBTC), Medical Device Manufacturers Association (MDMA), National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), National Electrical Manufacturers Association, (NEMA), Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI), PRBA – The Rechargeable Battery Association, Power Tool Institute, Inc. (PTI), Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA), Security Industry Association (SIA), and Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA).

For more information about the Coalition, contact Scott Weaver at (202) 719-3273 or [sweaver@wileyrein.com](mailto:sweaver@wileyrein.com), or David Weinberg at (202) 719-7102 or [dweinberg@wileyrein.com](mailto:dweinberg@wileyrein.com).