

March 3, 2021

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
Chairwoman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Kennedy  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur  
Chairwoman  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Michael Simpson  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Feinstein, Chairwoman Kaptur, Ranking Member Kennedy, and Ranking Member Simpson:

As you consider federal funding for Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22), the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) and UL LLC (UL) respectfully urge you to provide robust funding for the Department of Energy's Smart Building Acceleration Act, authorized in P.L. 116-260.

Smart buildings are important because they integrate technology and IoT to address inefficiencies that are inherent in current building construction and use practices. More specifically, smart buildings enable connected devices that support COVID-19 risk mitigation, reduce energy consumption, improve building efficiency, help manage maintenance costs, increase worker productivity, and provide for an overall better use of limited resources. As Congress considers legislation to upgrade America's aging infrastructure, mitigate the effects of climate change, and safely bring workers back to work in the time of COVID, we believe supporting smart buildings should be a part of the solution.

The Smart Building Acceleration Act is a critical bridge that will help the federal government develop a plan to transition its aging infrastructure to an inventory of smart and connected buildings. By evaluating privately owned smart buildings, conducting research on the benefits of transition to smart buildings, and developing a smart building acceleration program, the federal government can work hand in glove with the private sector to identify smart building best practices. Such an approach can ensure the federal government identifies smart building practices that meet the government's needs and can subsequently implement smart building practices on an appropriate timeline. The Smart Building Acceleration Act is an important step toward ensuring the future efficiency and integration of federal government buildings, and we urge you to appropriate funding for this critical program.

Thank you for considering this request. Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact Grant Kerr at [grant.kerr@ul.com](mailto:grant.kerr@ul.com), Patrick Lozada at [plozada@tiaonline.com](mailto:plozada@tiaonline.com), or Colin Andrews at [candrews@tiaonline.com](mailto:candrews@tiaonline.com).

Sincerely,



Jennifer F. Scanlon  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
UL Inc.



David Stehlin  
Chief Executive Officer  
Telecommunications Industry Association