



CITY OF HOUSTON

Sylvester Turner

Mayor

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Dear Members of the Houston Congressional Delegation,

May 13-20 is “Infrastructure Week,” and what better time to think about supporting and cosponsoring H.R. 2088? This legislation, authored by former Phoenix Mayor and Congressman Greg Stanton (AZ) and Congressman Marc Veasey (TX), reauthorizes the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG) at \$3.5 billion annually over the next five fiscal years.

The EECBG Program represents the largest nationwide direct investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies at the community level in U.S. history, rapidly increasing the number of communities directly engaged with DOE programs that increased renewable energy capacity, technical knowledge, and deployment of energy efficiency projects at the local level.

Through the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act), the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program provided \$3.2 billion in block grants to cities, communities, states, U.S. territories, and Indian tribes to develop, promote, implement, and manage energy efficiency and conservation projects that ultimately created jobs.

The City of Houston, alone, received \$22.8 million for important conservation projects. In fact, almost every significant sustainability project undertaken by the City of Houston was started with funding through the EECBG. These funds helped the City of Houston cut costs by retrofitting hundreds of city buildings, expanding curbside recycling, beginning one of the nation's largest LED streetlight conversion projects, creating the nation's first electric fleetshare program, and weatherizing low-income homes across Houston through the Residential Energy Efficiency Program (REEP).

I hope you will join me in supporting H.R. 2088 and EECBG programs. This legislation is good for the environment and good for Houston.

Sincerely,

Sylvester Turner,
Mayor