

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 5, 2022

The Honorable Robert J. Menendez  
Chairman  
U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign  
Relations  
423 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable James E. Risch  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign  
Relations  
423 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Menendez and Ranking Member Risch:

We write to urge the Foreign Relations Committee's expeditious consideration of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol so the U.S. Senate may act swiftly to ratify this important treaty. The President transmitted the Kigali Amendment to the U.S. Senate for its advice and consent on November 16, 2021. If ratified by Congress, the Kigali Amendment will be the fifth ratified amendment to the Montreal Protocol, which the United States first ratified in 1988 under President Ronald Reagan.

On October 15, 2016 in Kigali, Rwanda, more than 170 countries agreed to amend the Montreal Protocol to include a global phasedown of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). HFCs were developed as replacements for ozone-depleting substances, but have since been found to be damaging to the climate. This amendment has since been referred to as the "Kigali Amendment."

The Kigali Amendment's HFC phasedown mimics the timeline that was codified in U.S. law in 2020 with passage of the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act. As you may recall, the AIM Act enjoyed broad bipartisan support in the Senate, with 16 Democrats and 16 Republicans cosponsoring the original bill, and was backed by a broad coalition of industry and environmental groups. On December 27, 2020, President Trump signed the AIM Act into law as part of a broader package, H.R.133, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021. On September 23, 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published its final rule to implement the AIM Act, which will usher in the use of next generation HFC alternatives. Putting the AIM Act into action will create hundreds of thousands of good-paying American jobs, save consumers money, support American leadership in manufacturing and innovation, and protect our planet. EPA estimates that the cumulative net benefits of this action is \$272.7 billion from 2022 through 2050, and that it will have additional cumulative compliance savings for industry.

U.S. companies have already invested billions of dollars in next-generation technologies across the entire HFC supply chain, giving American businesses and workers a competitive advantage in the newly-created HFC-alternative global market. Ratification of the Kigali Amendment will further open up global markets to American-made products and will allow the federal government to further prevent illegal Chinese dumping of HFCs in the United States, which hurts U.S. businesses. At the same time, U.S. ratification is expected to accelerate global effort to

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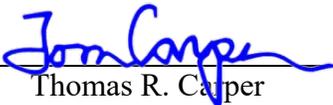
reduce HFCs usage, which will help avoid up to 0.5 °C increase in global temperature by the end of the century.

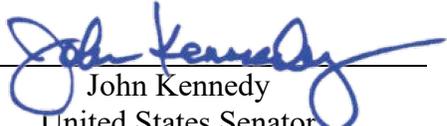
Similarly to the AIM Act, ratification of the Kigali Amendment is broadly supported across industry and environmental stakeholders, because these groups know ratification will be good for our economy, our planet, and our communities. We join industry stakeholders such as the National Association of Manufacturers, American Chemistry Council, and U.S. Chamber of Commerce and environmental groups such as the Natural Resources Defense Council and Sierra Club in calling for quick action by your committee on this matter. Any further delay only hurts U.S. businesses and delays critical environmental benefits.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Should you or your staff have any questions, please contact Laura Haynes Gillam ([Laura\\_Gillam@epw.senate.gov](mailto:Laura_Gillam@epw.senate.gov)) and Caroline Jones ([Caroline\\_Jones@epw.senate.gov](mailto:Caroline_Jones@epw.senate.gov)) of Chairman Carper's staff via email or at 202-224-8832, or James Shea ([James\\_Shea@kennedy.senate.gov](mailto:James_Shea@kennedy.senate.gov)) of Senator Kennedy's staff via email or at 202-224-4623.

With best personal regards, we are,

Sincerely,

  
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Thomas R. Carper  
Chairman  
Committee on Environment and  
Public Works

  
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John Kennedy  
United States Senator