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**TESTIMONY OF ENVIRONMENT NORTHEAST  
TO THE ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE  
ON H.B. 5217, AAC ENERGY EFFICIENT PRODUCTS**

February 23, 2010

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Good afternoon Senator Fonfara, Representative Nardello, Senator Witkos, Representative Williams and members of the Committee. My name is Jessie Stratton, Director of Government Relations for Environment Northeast (ENE). ENE is a non-profit research and advocacy organization that focuses on energy, air quality and climate change solutions for New England and Eastern Canada. ENE appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony to the Energy and Technology Committee in favor of H.B. 5217, *AAC Energy Efficient Products*.

H.B. 5217 builds on the good work of the General Assembly in both 2004 and 2007. PA 04-85 adopted efficiency standards for eight specific products and PA 07-242 added nine additional product categories. These standards for appliances and equipment significantly reduce energy use, saving consumers money and eliminate 150,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions. The 2007 act directed the Office of Policy and Management to adopt additional standards upon determining that such efficiency standards “(A) would serve to promote energy conservation in the state, (B) would be cost-effective for consumers who purchase and use such new products, and (C) that multiple products are available which meet the standards, provided that no such standards shall become effective within one year following their adoption.” Despite this directive, no new standards, beyond those specifically adopted by the General Assembly in 2004 and 2007 have been adopted.

H.B. 5217 would establish a definite timeframe for OPM to carry out that directive and require the office to work with the Multi-State Appliance Standards Collaborative to identify the additional products and standards. As was the case in 2004 and 2007, new product standards are common across the states and often can be adopted by reference directly from the California State Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards. In addition, the Multi-State Appliance Standards Collaborative has established a data base for many products that have common standards across the states. In addition to California both New York and Massachusetts have adopted standards for several products that remain unregulated in Connecticut. In particular adopting the standards for commercial electronic products such as televisions, DVD players and other compact audio products would reduce energy use in

Connecticut by 2020 by more than 25 GW and greenhouse gas emissions by an amount equivalent to taking 1,150 vehicles off the road.

The following table from the Multi-State Appliance Standards Collaborative shows which states have adopted codes for various product categories.

<i>Status of State Adoption of Energy Efficiency Standards</i>											<i>Last updated: July 2009</i>			
State	AZ	CA	CT	DC	MA	MD	NV	NH	NJ	NY	OR	RI	VT	WA
Year of enactment	2009	var.	2007	2007	2005/09	2007	2007	2008	2005	2005	2005/07	2006	2005	2009
<a href="#">Bottle-type water dispensers</a>		X	X	X	P	X		X			X	X		X
<a href="#">Commercial hot food holding cabinets</a>		X	X	X	P	X		X			X	X		X
<a href="#">Compact audio products</a>		X			P					X(tbd)	X			
<a href="#">DVD players and recorders</a>		X			P					X(tbd)	X			
<a href="#">General Service Light Bulbs</a>		X					X							
<a href="#">Portable Light Fixtures</a>		X			P									
<a href="#">Residential natural gas furnaces *</a>					X	X		X				X	X	
<a href="#">Spas (hot tubs)</a>	X	X	X		P						X			X
<a href="#">Swimming pool pumps</a>	X	X	X											X
<a href="#">Televisions</a>		X			P					X(tbd)				

*Notes:*

- X indicates standard is adopted; P indicates standard is under consideration.*
- States must seek waivers from federal pre-emption to implement standards denoted with (\*)
- New York's Appliance Standards law requires that the standards levels be enacted through a regulatory process which is now underway.
- This table only includes standards which states are responsible for enforcing. Many standards enacted by states since 2002 have subsequently been enacted federally and are now the responsibility of the federal government. They are not included in this table.

ENE urges the committee to favorable act upon H.B. 5217.