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July 29, 2024

Senator Maria Cantwell  
Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce,  
Science, and Transportation  
254 Russell Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairwoman Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz,

On behalf of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), I write to express our strong support for S.3849, the Promoting United States Leadership in Standards Act of 2024. We commend the bipartisan efforts to advance the United States' position as a global leader in standards development through this important legislation and encourage the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee to advance this legislation to the Senate floor.

The Promoting United States Leadership in Standards Act of 2024 is a critical step towards enhancing international engagement in technical standards that are crucial for future technological cooperation and economic success. By leveraging the expertise of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the Department of State, this bill will facilitate more active participation by U.S. federal agencies and industry stakeholders in international standards organizations, and promote participation in a wide variety of independent, private sector standards developing organizations committed to serving the needs of all stakeholders through an open and transparent process.

The strategic implications of this legislation cannot be overstated. As global competition intensifies, it is vital for the United States to establish a robust framework for open participation in standards development that is not controlled solely by nation-state actors and includes strong representation for a wide-variety of civil society and industry interests. This proactive approach will ensure that U.S. standards and democratic values are integral to the global technological landscape, maintaining our economic and technological expertise while securing our future prosperity.

We believe that the Promoting United States Leadership in Standards Act of 2024 will play a pivotal role in positioning the United States at the forefront of technological innovation and cooperation.

Thank you for your attention to these critical issues and we look forward to supporting the successful implementation of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Thomas Costabile, P.E., FASME  
Executive Director/CEO

Cc: Senator Mark Warner  
Senator Marsha Blackburn