

Good Afternoon Chair Sheldon, members of the committee. My name is Jessica Olson. I'm the Director of Environmental Policy for Honeywell Fluorine Products.

Thank you for allowing me to join via phone to express Honeywell's support for S.30, which supports adoption of advanced US technologies by businesses. HFCs are used throughout the world as refrigerants in air conditioning to cool cars, homes and buildings, in home and commercial refrigeration, in foam insulation, and as propellants and solvents. While efficient, many HFC products have high global-warming-potential. Because HFCs are used in everyday life, replacing these products with next-generation alternatives can make a positive impact on the environment and human health. Replacing HFCs with environmentally preferable alternatives is key to achieving Vermont's environmental goals. Globally, replacing HFCs with low-global-warming-potential alternatives could avoid up to 0.5 degrees Celsius of warming by the end of the century.

American industry has invested well over \$1 billion domestically and employed more than 700,000 US workers to research, develop and create alternative solutions to HFCs. This includes newly constructed manufacturing hubs in the United States to produce these alternatives. This bill will help drive a transition to these alternatives, and will also bolster US leadership in innovation and manufacturing.

Because of this investment, **cost-effective, near drop-in alternatives to HFCs are commercially available today and are ready for widespread adoption.** Therefore, we need to transition from HFCs on a reasonable and practical schedule and incentivize equipment makers to adopt readily available sustainable technologies now to accelerate the transition. Technologies using environmentally preferable HFC alternatives are often also more energy efficient than traditional systems, and thus lower customer costs and increase competitiveness. Honeywell continues to work with our customers to ensure a smooth transition to these advanced technologies.

In 2015 and 2016, under the Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) program US EPA established clear timelines that would transition the industry from outdated HFCs to safer next-generation alternative solutions. But recent litigation has brought uncertainty to the SNAP program.

So states must take a lead on this essential initiative. States like Vermont are seizing the opportunity to build upon growing state-level efforts aimed at protecting the environment by adopting programs similar to SNAP that will achieve the environmental imperative to replace high-global-warming potential HFCs with alternatives that are better for human health and the environment.

California has already adopted SNAP phase out dates, which took effect on Jan. 1 of this year and Governor Inslee of Washington state just this week signed a similar bill. SB 30 has dates that are consistent with the SNAP deadlines and states like California and Washington. New York, Connecticut, and Maryland have also committed to similar actions. By passing this bill, Vermont can take meaningful action to meet its environmental goals while also supporting American innovation and job creation within the United States.

Draft No. 1.1 of S. 30 recently posted to the Committee website would improve the bill as the changes therein would make S. 30 more consistent with other state programs. We support Draft No. 1.1 and encourage the Committee to support amending the bill to adopt those changes.

We look forward to working with you on this important effort.