May 7, 2021

The Honorable Gina M. Raimondo, Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Raimondo:

On behalf of our combined industries, we write to emphasize the importance of adequate supplies of semiconductors and similar products to ensure Americans' continued access to the equipment and systems manufactured by our Member companies. While we understand the importance of the automobile sector, we were dismayed to read your recent remark that, "We're working hard to see if we can…prioritize the needs of our auto companies since there's so many American jobs on the line".

The National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) represents nearly 325 electrical equipment and medical imaging manufacturers that make safe, reliable, and efficient products and systems. The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) represents more than 150 manufacturers of major, portable, and floor care home appliances, and suppliers to the industry. The Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) represents more than 300 manufacturers of air conditioning, heating, commercial refrigeration, and water heating equipment. Our combined industries' economic impact in the U.S. is $578 billion and we employ over 2.6 million people.

Our Member companies' products perform essential functions across critical infrastructure sectors including healthcare, energy, grid, information technology, medical imaging, transportation, water/wastewater, and efficient home appliances. All depend on the global supply of semiconductors. Without semiconductors, production slows or stops. Disruptions in the marketplace for semiconductors are creating production problems for our Member companies, which in turn affects their customers.

We know that supporting the manufacturing sector is a high priority, and that you clearly understand the implications of a semiconductor shortage. Executive Order 14017, *America's Supply Chains*, establishes Administration policy of strengthened supply chain resilience and calls for multi-departmental analyses to advance that policy. The Department of Commerce is actively analyzing the risks in semiconductor manufacturing and advanced packaging supply chains. However, during this shortage, *it is essential that the nation's semiconductor supply be fairly allocated across industry sectors and that Administration statements do not—explicitly or implicitly--favor any one sector over others*. We simply ask for fairness so that the health, safety, comfort, productivity, and other needs of Americans can be met to ensure that people can stay safe and healthy.

We count on your consideration of these views and would be happy to discuss them with you and your staff further.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Cosgriff
NEMA President and CEO

Joseph M. McGuire
AHAM President and CEO

Stephen Yurek
AHRI President and CEO