



**National Association of State Energy Officials**  
Board of Directors Resolution  
Supporting High Performance and Zero Energy Buildings

WHEREAS, the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) and our 56 governor designated State and Territory Energy Office members have long recognized the importance of supporting cost effective, innovative building energy technologies that lower operating costs and contribute to state energy and economic development goals;

WHEREAS, homes, commercial, and public buildings use 40 percent of the nation's energy and one-eighth of our fresh water and, there are significant opportunities to increase operational efficiency, improve affordability, increase construction quality, and support U.S. building product and construction innovation;

WHEREAS, high performance and zero energy buildings are more resilient during energy supply disruptions resulting from storms and other energy system threats and provide citizens places of shelter during emergencies;

WHEREAS, high performance and zero energy buildings greatly reduce the operating and maintenance costs of buildings and reduce building owner and occupant exposure to volatile or increased energy costs;

WHEREAS, high performance and zero energy homes and multifamily buildings provide equity by reducing utility bills, making energy costs more predictable, and significantly reduce default risks;

WHEREAS, high performance and zero energy public buildings – schools, fire and police stations, universities, and office buildings – reduce building operating costs to taxpayers and demonstrate good stewardship and leadership by example;

WHEREAS, such geographically and politically diverse states across the country have public K-12 zero energy schools constructed at or near the cost of conventional schools and offer exceptional learning opportunities for our children;

WHEREAS, reduced demand on the nation's electric system offers no-cost and low-cost opportunities to support grid reliability and economic competitiveness;

WHEREAS, high performance and zero energy buildings provide healthier learning, living, and working environments with improved comfort and indoor air quality at low costs;

WHEREAS, private sector high performance and zero energy buildings demonstrate American technological leadership and provide citizens inspiration about their communities' and our nation's potential;

WHEREAS, studies have documented students in high performance and zero energy schools achieve better grades, building tenants are more productive, and homeowners are more comfortable while experiencing significantly lower utility bills;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT NASEO encourages states seeking to improve grid reliability and security, expand economic opportunity, reduce utility costs to consumers and businesses, and enhance resiliency in their buildings sector, to consider high performance and zero energy building policies and programs that support:

- Reasonable, equitable high performance and zero energy building grid access policies;
- Innovative public-private financing, voluntary recognition programs, lead-by-example initiatives, technical assistance, and incentives;
- Education of building design and construction professionals to encourage systems-based design approaches that offer least-cost and improved performance over a building's life-cycle; Awareness of U.S. manufacturers of innovative building products to speed technology adoption and facilitate export of these products thereby supporting American job growth and state economic development;
- Education of state, local, and community leaders to positively influence the decision making processes that adopt, finance, and construct high performance and zero energy buildings.