CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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September 12, 2017

The Honorable Rob Bishop Chairman Committee on Natural Resources U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Raúl Grijalva Ranking Member Committee on Natural Resources U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Bishop and Ranking Member Grijalva:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce strongly supports H.R. 210, the "Native American Energy Act," which is being marked up by your committee today.

As identified in the GAO annual High Risk Report, the GAO has issued three reports on developing Indian energy resources in the past two years, making more than a dozen recommendations to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. To date, all those recommendations remain unaddressed.¹

H.R. 210 would be an important step in furthering efforts by Congress to encourage economic development throughout Indian Country. Not only does H.R. 210 address many of the concerns raised in the Report, but it also includes provisions that would foster tribal sovereignty, a sure path to economic growth. Additionally, this bill would make further headway towards American energy independence while also providing much needed employment in tribal communities and hard-stricken regions of the country.

The Chamber strongly supports H.R. 210 and urges the Committee to favorably report this bill.

Sincerely,

Neil L. Bradley

cc: Members of the Committee on Natural Resources

¹ http://www.gao.gov/highrisk/improving_federal_management_serve_tribes/why_did_study#t=2