

Congressman Burton
2308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-0001

Dear Congressman Burton,

On behalf of the Indiana Urban Forest Council board of Directors, I would like to respectfully ask you to consider supporting HR 2095, the Energy Conservation Through Trees Act. Rep. Doris Matsui has introduced the legislation, and Rep. Carson of Indiana has also offered support. This legislation recognizes that trees not only beautify homes and our neighborhoods and improve individual property values, but they also save real, everyday dollars for homeowners and businesses by providing heat-beating, energy-saving shade. Trees are an integral part of creative green solutions to our country's energy demands.

The purpose of this legislation is to help homeowners lower their electric bills- and help utilities lower their peak load demand-by reducing residential energy demand caused by the need to run air conditioners and heaters at high levels. Shade trees help to shield homes from sun in the summer and cold winds in the winter, in addition to lowering ambient air temperatures and reducing the urban heat island effect.

We believe this is truly a win-win opportunity. Indiana citizens and the environment will benefit, and that is not a common occurrence. The Indiana Urban Forest Council is poised and ready to work with our utilities to make this partnership successful as we already have a good working relationship with many of them.

Thank you for consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or I can be of future service.

Sincerely,
Ashley Mulis
Executive Director
Indiana Urban Forest Council
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