American Chemistry Council

February 8, 2016

The Honorable Jeff Barker, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary
900 Court St., NE, H-480
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 4066 – unmanned aerial vehicles: SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Barker:

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) urges your support for HB 4066, legislation relating to unmanned aerial vehicles.

ACC represents companies engaged in the business of chemistry—an innovative, $812 billion enterprise that is helping solve the biggest challenges facing our nation and the world. The business of chemistry drives innovations that enable a more sustainable future, creates nearly 800,000 manufacturing and high-tech jobs—plus nearly seven million related jobs—that support families and communities, and enhances safety through the products of chemistry and investment in research.

ACC and its member companies are dedicated to safeguarding our employees, our contractors and the people who live and work around our operations. This commitment is demonstrated through ACC's Responsible Care® program and our industry's performance to continually enhance safety and security. Over the past decade, ACC members have invested more than $14 billion to enhance security measures.

The proliferation of unmanned aerial vehicles has raised questions about potential security threats to critical infrastructure such as chemical plants, refineries, and electricity generating facilities. For example, unmanned aerial vehicles with mechanical or control problems that may fall into an active chemical process unit could create a safety hazard. Furthermore, video or photos of a chemical plant layout could reveal information that has been removed from public access by government agencies for security reasons. HB 4066 adds a layer of important security protection.

For these reasons, ACC urges you to support HB 4066. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at 916-448-2581 or tim_shestek@americanchemistry.com

Sincerely,

Tim Shestek
Senior Director, State Affairs
American Chemistry Council