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## **OPEN LETTER TO MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT - EURIMA CALLS FOR A LARGE MAJORITY IN FAVOUR OF THE ADOPTION OF AN AMBITIOUS RECAST OF THE ENERGY PERFORMANCE OF BUILDINGS DIRECTIVE (EPBD)**

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

This week, you will have the opportunity to adopt the first reading position on the Commission's proposal for a recast of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD).

**The adoption of an ambitious report on the recast EPBD in first reading in the European Parliament is crucial** as it addresses the main challenges which the EU is facing: **relaunching the economy, combating climate change and ensuring energy security.**

Enhancing the energy performance of the EU building stock will **contribute significantly to the quality of life of millions of Europeans by reducing energy use in the building sector; lowering energy bills; reducing exposure to energy supply problems and peak loads; and creating new green collar jobs** through the refurbishment of existing stock and the development of very low energy and net zero energy buildings. Furthermore, the **technology is available; and the basis for a functioning and ambitious regulatory framework already exists in most Member States.** Therefore, your strengthening and improving of the EPBD, through this current amending process of the recast, will help to harvest a considerable amount of low-hanging fruit in the form of energy savings potentials that are readily available and easily realised.

We very much welcome the ITRE-report by your colleague Ms. Silvia-Adriana Ţicău and congratulate her and all the MEPs who have been involved in the drafting of the report. We hope a very large majority of the European Parliament will support the improvements adopted by the lead Committee and, in particular, the following aspects:

1. **Ambitious targets for new and existing buildings** with the aim of achieving very low or zero carbon dioxide emissions and energy consumption.
2. **Increasing attention given to the building envelope** in order to ensure the demand for energy for heating and cooling is minimized before addressing energy supply.
3. **Consistent minimum energy performance requirements based at least on cost-optimal levels** so that Member States are encouraged to achieve optimal energy efficiency performance.
4. Providing effective **energy performance certification of buildings, financial incentives and improved education and training to the building chain** to make the aims of the Directive a reality.

As businesses we realise that it is important that the European Parliament plays a leading role and helps the European Commission and the Member States to pave the way for an ambitious EU-wide policy for the energy efficiency of our buildings. To do this, the recast of the EPBD Directive needs strong endorsement, by you and your colleagues. Therefore, **we call on you to vote in favour of the report and the strengthening amendments adopted by the ITRE Committee.**

Yours sincerely,  
Jan te Bos,  
Director General  
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