



President's Letter-

Members,
Summer Greetings!

Our affiliate representative to the national board of HPBA, Eric Massey, is attending his first meeting and I look forward to his initial comments for our next newsletter. As you may already know, the national board meets just 3 times a year in person to review the state of the industry and our association. It's an all-day meeting with top manufacturers and affiliate leaders all working to bring you value. I believe all of us feel that the government relations work is on top of that list.

I want to give a shout out to Eric for volunteering for this key role in our affiliate. It means time away from his business and family a few times a year to help make your association stronger and your businesses more viable. I think he will find value for himself as well in this role. He'll meet good people and work in committees that will deepen his list of industry colleagues.

Speaking of volunteering, next time we send out a notice asking for people to come forward for a seat on our South Central Board, I hope you'll seriously consider it. You have a lot to offer.

Denny

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Government Affairs Updates

Legislative Tracking Software- We are now tracking Legislative updates in the State of Texas. With several states now looking deeper into Zero Net Energy and adopting initiatives to support ZNE, this is an important step in keeping members up to date on what is happening on a local level. If you are interested in learning more, or want to get these alerts too, call the affiliate office- 903-533-1674.

NSPS- State officials in Connecticut are visiting dealers and making sure they are complying with NSPS rules. Would you be ready if a state official visited your store? As a refresher, [click here to read what dealers need to know about NSPS.](#)

DOE- The U.S. Department of Energy had been considering a regulatory action for pilot lights intended to conserve energy for all heating and decorative gas appliances. At the same time, HPBA has been advancing a revision to the standards for vented gas fireplaces, stoves, and inserts that would achieve these same goals while considering the unique attributes, functions, and technical considerations of each appliance category. The CSA Group, setting technical appliance standards worldwide, has accepted HPBA's proposal to phase out continuous pilot lights, sometimes referred to as "standing" pilots, by mid-2019—several years earlier than would be achievable through federal regulation. The standards being revised will disallow continuous pilots on newly-manufactured products currently covered under the Z21.50 and Z21.88 standards.

Save My Natural Gas, Canada Effort- Did you know that Mayor Gregor Robertson and the City of Vancouver have plans to aggressively ban natural gas in Vancouver starting May 1, 2017? HPBA Canada has created a website and social media page to help keep natural gas in homes. [Click here to check out the website.](#)

Change outs- For a list of current change outs, [click here.](#)

New South Central Feedback Series- Ask our members!

South Central is here to serve you, the members, and in this capacity we need to hear from you. What are your needs from the association? What can we do to continually help you improve your business? Each newsletter going forward, we'll be posing a single survey question that will help us, the board and South Central staff, plan and promote the programs and services that you need as our member. Thank you for your participation!

[Please click here to take our first survey question!](#)

Discover your best backyard!

HPBA has put together some tools that you can use during the spring BBQ'ing season to help promote your business and grills. [Click here](#) for some great promotional ideas that HPBA has helped put together.

Post HPBExpo 2017 Report.

Over the course of four days, HPBExpo 2017 attracted 6,781 registered attendees to the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta to eat, sleep, and breathe the latest innovations in indoor-outdoor living. With 411 exhibitors across 129,200 sq. ft. of show floor space, new business relationships were established, purchases were made, and HPBExpo once again ranked as the premier event for the entire indoor-outdoor living industry. [Read the report here.](#)

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