

## Senate Resolution 836

By: Senators Harbin of the 16th, Goodman of the 8th, Burns of the 23rd, Strickland of the 17th, Robertson of the 29th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the United States Department of Energy to ensure the feasibility of tankless water  
2 heaters; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Rinnai America opened its first United States headquarters in 1974 and has  
4 been at the forefront of tankless water heater technology; and

5 WHEREAS, it invested over \$70 million to construct and open the first gas tankless water  
6 heater manufacturing facility in the United States, a 360,000 square foot manufacturing  
7 facility in the City of Griffin in the County of Spalding; and

8 WHEREAS, it employs 122 high-wage workers at this facility; and

9 WHEREAS, its commitment to the State of Georgia has led to new jobs and local revenue,  
10 providing essential economic benefits to the local community and the state; and

11 WHEREAS, it is a global leader in advancing research and development in energy efficiency  
12 for home appliances, including opening Rinnai America's 25,110 square foot Innovation  
13 Center of Excellence in 2019; and

14 WHEREAS, its non-condensing tankless water heaters can achieve over 80 percent  
15 efficiency; and

16 WHEREAS, sales of non-condensing gas tankless water heaters alone saved 339 million  
17 MMBtus (0.34 quads) and 37.7 billion pounds (17 million metric tons) of carbon emissions  
18 between 2005 and 2022; and

19 WHEREAS, a recent Department of Energy proposed rule, "Energy Conservation Standards  
20 for Consumer Water Heaters" (Docket# EERE-2017-BT-STD-0019), unnecessarily removes  
21 highly efficient technologies from the home appliance market, restricts consumer choice, and  
22 harms Georgia manufacturing investments; and

23 WHEREAS, a bipartisan group of members from Georgia's delegations to the United States  
24 Senate and the United States House of Representatives have formally expressed concerns  
25 with the impact of this water heater rule on Georgia's workers and consumers.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
27 recognize and commend Rinnai America's long-term investment in Georgia and call upon  
28 the United States Department of Energy to amend any final regulation "Energy Conservation  
29 Standards for Consumer Water Heaters" (Docket # EERE-2017-BT-STD-0019) to ensure  
30 that no standard is promulgated that creates technological infeasibility for non-condensing  
31 tankless water heaters that would put the jobs and economic benefits from Rinnai America's  
32 facility in the City of Griffin at severe risk.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
34 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the President of the  
35 United States and members of the Georgia Congressional delegation.