



**The Building Industry
Policy Roundtable**

BIPRT Backgrounder

May 2015

--The BIPRT was founded in as a partnership between the Leading Builders of America (LBA), which represents the largest homebuilders in the United States, and key suppliers and manufacturers to the industry. The group operates as a multi-issue coalition, focused on analyzing and influencing policy proposals that impact the health and growth of the residential construction industry.

--The goal of BIPRT is to provide expertise and insight into the broad impacts that policies can have on the industry. All too often regulators and lawmakers see issues in silo categories—"housing," "mortgages"—and they naturally think about the impacts only to homebuilders and homebuyers. While those impacts are often significant and are always important, Leading Builders of America believes that policies impacting our industry and economy go far beyond the homebuilder silo; those impacts are felt throughout our economy. And the story of that broad impact is an important one to tell.

--BIPRT's Steering Committee, which is today comprised of the founding members: Leading Builders of America, Lennox International, Masco Corporation, Owens-Corning, and Whirlpool Corporation, is the decision-making body for BIPRT, providing guidance, input and expertise on the positions that the BIPRT takes on key issues, regulations, and legislation. Issues that BIPRT should consider prioritizing can be brought forward at any time by a BIPRT Steering Committee member.

--The BIPRT intends to focus its efforts on those issues that have the most immediate impact on the industry's ability to grow by meeting the demands for housing in the marketplace. In broad categories, this means a focus on three initial areas: housing finance and tax policy; energy efficiency and construction technology; and workforce and labor availability. The BIPRT believes that good and informed policy decisions made in these three broad areas are key to maintaining a healthy housing market that responds to the dynamic needs of Americans.

--The BIPRT Steering Committee determined that BIPRT should initially have a federal focus; however, the group's goals include working together to eventually identify areas and issues in key states where the group's expertise can be useful. This is a daunting task, given the sheer volume of potential issues and concerns. The BIPRT will move strategically into this area once there is clear consensus for doing so.

--One of the best outcomes of the BIPRT will be the ability of key suppliers, builders, and manufacturers in the industry to have the communication and dialogue to identify issues and concerns across the landscape of the industry, so that our own sector is not also in the position of being too focused on silos, and not informed about the broad impacts of what is happening in the marketplace.

--The BIPRT Steering Committee is still in its formation stage. One of the unique features of BIPRT is its goal of populating its governing committee with a broad array of manufacturers and suppliers from across the landscape of the industry. In doing so, the BIPRT hopes to create a roundtable atmosphere where interests and input coming from all areas of the industry can be heard and discussed. For more information on the Steering Committee, interested companies or groups can contact Ken Gear at Leading Builders of America, or Jenna Hamilton with the BIPRT.