

June 24, 2016

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid
Senate Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The nation's water resources infrastructure is critical to our economy, public health, safety and the preservation and enhancement of our environmental resources. **On behalf of the 93 undersigned organizations, we strongly urge the Senate to take up and pass S.2848 the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2016.**

The Environment and Public Works Committee passed the current WRDA bill out of committee with a bipartisan vote of 19-1 on April 28, 2016. The legislation makes a strong commitment to our nation's critical water resources infrastructure by authorizing new Army Corps of Engineers projects and by making improvements to ports, inland harbors, waterways, dams and flood control systems. WRDA allows for repair and maintenance work that the nation's water transportation systems desperately need. In addition, the bill promotes important environmental restoration projects which benefit not only ecosystems, but economies that rely on their healthy function.

Without action, delays may continue to unnecessarily increase project costs and jeopardize the efficacy of critical flood control structures. Project delays increase the price of goods and services which depend on efficient, reliable, and cost effective water borne transportation. Furthermore, maintaining a two-year cycle for the bill ensures project and program efficiency and moderates costs. With flooding persistent around the country this spring, it is important to mitigate risk upfront, to provide protection while reducing economic loss and disaster recovery costs.

Urgent action is critical. With only three weeks of work period remaining before the summer recess, the Senate should work to bring this bill to the floor as soon as possible. We urge the Senate to take up and pass the 2016 WRDA bill, S.2848. Our nation relies on these critical water resources systems and your strong leadership.

Sincerely,

American Association of Port Authorities
American Society of Civil Engineers
National Waterways Conference, Inc.
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Alliance for American Manufacturing
Alliance for Innovation and Infrastructure
American Association of State Highway and
Transportation Officials
American Chemistry Council
American Concrete Pipe Association

American Council of Engineering
Companies
American Institute Architects
American Institute of Steel Construction
American Iron and Steel Institute
American Petroleum Institute
American Public Works Association
American Road and Transportation Builders
Association

American Shore and Beach Preservation Association
American Society of Landscape Architects
Associated General Contractors of America
Association of American Railroads
Association of Equipment Manufacturers
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
Association of State Dam Safety Officials
Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association
Bay Planning Coalition
Boat U.S.
Broward County, Florida
Building America's Future
CH2M
City of Sacramento, CA
City of West Sacramento
Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute
Construction Management Association of America
Council on Federal Procurement of Architectural and Engineering Services
Deep Foundations Institute
Dire States
Division of Flood Management of the CA Department of Water Resources
Dredging Contractors of America
Gahagan & Bryant Associates Inc.
Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company LLC
Great Lakes Maritime Task Force
Illinois Farm Bureau
Inland Rivers, Ports & Terminals, Inc.
International Union of Operating Engineers
Iowa Corn Growers Association
Laborers International Union of North America
Lake Carrier's Association
Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
MAPPS
Mayor Stephanie Miner of Syracuse, NY

Mississippi Water Resources Association
Missouri and Associated Rivers Coalition
National Asphalt Pavement Association
National Association of Clean Water Agencies
National Association of Counties
National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of Regional Councils
National Electrical Contractors Association
National Ground Water Association
National League of Cities
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Railroad Construction & Maintenance Association
National Ready Mixed Concrete Association
National Rural Water Association
National Society of Professional Surveyors
National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association
National Utilities Contractors Association
National Water Resources Association
Personal Watercraft Industry Association
Red River Valley Association
Red River Waterway Commission of Louisiana
Restore America's Estuaries
Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency
Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency
The Corps Network
The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
The Nature Conservancy
The Pacific Northwest Waterways Association
The Port of Virginia
The West Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency
Tri Rivers Waterway
U.S. Conference of Mayors

U.S. Society of Dams
United Association Union of Plumber &
Pipefitters
United Steelworkers
Vinyl Building Council
Vinyl Institute
Vision Long Island
Water & Sewer Distributors of America
Water Environment Federation
Water Infrastructure Network
Yazoo Mississippi Delta Levee Board