



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

# Investing in Transportation = Economic Growth

## ISSUE

A key priority for Congress in 2009 is the reauthorization of the highway, transit and safety programs under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (“SAFETEA-LU”), which expires on September 30, 2009. The new authorization bill will set funding levels and programmatic priorities for the next six years. A timely and robust program is essential to helping to restore and revitalize our economy and our transportation infrastructure.

ACEC strongly supported the \$37.4 billion for highways and transit in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, but much more needs to be done to address the serious backlog of transportation improvement projects. Implementing a stable and growing financing mechanism for the new program is a key priority for the engineering industry. Current budget forecasts project a 50% cut in the highway program in FY2010 without new revenues into the Highway Trust Fund. This funding shortfall will only exacerbate persistent problems of congested roads, deficient bridges and overburdened transit systems.

Transportation investment creates short and long term economic growth. Every \$1 billion in spending on infrastructure supports over 34,000 jobs. Each dollar invested in highway construction generates \$1.80 of GDP in the short term. Improving our highway and transit systems will promote long-term economic growth by facilitating the efficient movement of people and goods throughout the country.

## KEY POINTS

- *Current funding levels fall short of meeting the Nation’s transportation needs.* According to the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission, the system needs investments of “at least \$225 billion annually from all sources for the next 50 years to upgrade our existing system to a state of good repair and create a more advanced surface transportation system to sustain and ensure strong economic growth for our families.”
- *Congress needs to reauthorize highway, transit, and safety programs before the current bill expires.* A timely reauthorization will provide certainty to transportation planners and facilitate the investments necessary to meet our surface transportation needs.
- *The engineering community plays an essential role in helping states to deliver critical transportation services to the public.* Private sector firms bring the innovation, expertise, on-time delivery and long-term cost savings necessary to ensure that taxpayer dollars are well invested.

## ACTION REQUESTED

- Support a timely reauthorization bill with robust funding increases and mechanisms to ensure adequate and stable funding sources for meeting transportation improvement needs, including increasing and indexing the fuel tax and a greater utilization of private sources of capital.
- Protect and strengthen procurement of private sector design, engineering and construction services, and oppose efforts to restrict the flexibility of states to contract out.

## Key Congressional Committees

### House

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Mike Thompson, (CA)  
John B. Larson, (CT)  
Earl Blumenauer, (OR)  
Ron Kind, (WI)  
Bill Pascrell Jr., (NJ)  
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Joseph Crowley, (NY)  
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David Vitter (LA)  
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Charles E. Schumer (NY)  
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Olympia J. Snowe (ME)  
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Jim Bunning (KY)  
Mike Crapo (ID)  
Pat Roberts (KS)  
John Ensign (NV)  
Mike Enzi (WY)  
John Cornyn (TX)



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

# Clean & Safe Water Infrastructure = Economic Growth

## ISSUE

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and others, America's water and wastewater systems face a funding gap of \$300 to \$500 billion over 20 years between current annual investments in water infrastructure and what is needed to repair deteriorating water and wastewater systems and meet the mandates of the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Federal funding has fallen substantially in recent years. Funding for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program – one of the federal government's primary funding programs for wastewater projects – has declined steadily from its traditional level of \$1.35 billion annually. Funding for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) has not kept pace with inflation or the growing cost of delivering safe drinking water to consumers.

Engineering firms work with state and local governments and communities to design solutions to prevent billions of tons of pollutants from reaching rivers, lakes, and coastlines, protecting human health and safety. The industry is also designing new solutions to protect the public from contaminants in drinking water. These efforts not only protect our health and well-being, but contribute significantly to jobs and economic growth, particularly in those industries that depend on clean and safe water resources.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provided \$4 billion for wastewater projects and \$2 billion for drinking water projects that were "shovel-ready." While this was an important step forward, much more needs to be done to address the serious backlog in water projects throughout the country.

Both the House of Representatives and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee passed legislation in 2008 reauthorizing and expanding the SRF programs; however, the Senate bill did not reach the floor. This year the House passed H.R. 1262 which is nearly identical to last year's bill, authorizing \$13.8 billion over five years for wastewater projects. The measure also includes language to require the use of Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) in the procurement of engineering services for SRF-funded projects to ensure that tax dollars are well spent for water projects.

## KEY POINTS

- Funding for water infrastructure continues to fall behind documented needs.
- This continued decline in investment by the federal government jeopardizes human health and economic security
- ACEC members are on the front lines of this effort. Public agencies depend on the engineering industry to design innovative solutions to protect the nation's water bodies and drinking water.

## ACTION REQUESTED

- Seek Senate passage of companion legislation to H.R. 1262, to reauthorize and expand the Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Funds.
- Make it a priority *this year* to send a bill to the White House.

# House of Representatives Vote on H.R. 1262, The Water Quality Investment Act of 2009

## Yea: 317 Members

(alphabetical by state)

Rep. Donald Young (R-AK)  
Rep. Artur Davis (D-AL)  
Rep. Parker Griffith (D-AL)  
Rep. Marion Berry (D-AR)  
Rep. John Boozman (R-AR)  
Rep. Michael Ross (D-AR)  
Rep. Vic Snyder (D-AR)  
Rep. Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ)  
Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-AZ)  
Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick (D-AZ)  
Rep. Harry Mitchell (D-AZ)  
Rep. Ed Pastor (D-AZ)  
Rep. Joseph Baca (D-CA)  
Rep. Xavier Becerra (D-CA)  
Rep. Howard Berman (D-CA)  
Rep. Brian Bilbray (R-CA)  
Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA)  
Rep. Lois Capps (D-CA)  
Rep. Dennis Cardoza (D-CA)  
Rep. James Costa (D-CA)  
Rep. Susan Davis (D-CA)  
Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA)  
Rep. Sam Farr (D-CA)  
Rep. Bob Filner (D-CA)  
Rep. Jane Harman (D-CA)  
Rep. Michael Honda (D-CA)  
Rep. Darrell Issa (R-CA)  
Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA)  
Rep. Jerry Lewis (R-CA)  
Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)  
Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA)  
Rep. Jerry McNerney (D-CA)  
Rep. George Miller (D-CA)  
Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-CA)  
Rep. Laura Richardson (D-CA)  
Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA)  
Rep. Linda Sanchez (D-CA)  
Rep. Loretta Sanchez (D-CA)  
Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA)  
Rep. Brad Sherman (D-CA)  
Rep. Fortney Stark (D-CA)  
Rep. Ellen Tauscher (D-CA)  
Rep. Michael Thompson (D-CA)  
Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA)  
Rep. Diane Watson (D-CA)  
Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA)  
Rep. Lynn Woolsey (D-CA)  
Rep. Mike Coffman (R-CO)  
Rep. Diana DeGette (D-CO)  
Rep. Betsy Markey (D-CO)  
Rep. Edwin Perlmutter (D-CO)  
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Rep. Joseph Courtney (D-CT)  
Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)  
Rep. James Himes (D-CT)  
Rep. John Larson (D-CT)  
Rep. Christopher Murphy (D-CT)  
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Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL)  
Rep. Allen Boyd (D-FL)  
Rep. Corrine Brown (D-FL)  
Rep. Virginia Brown-Waite (R-FL)  
Rep. Vern Buchanan (R-FL)  
Rep. Katherine Castor (D-FL)  
Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart (R-FL)  
Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)  
Rep. Alan Grayson (D-FL)  
Rep. Alcee Hastings (D-FL)  
Rep. Ronald Klein (D-FL)  
Rep. Suzanne Kosmas (D-FL)  
Rep. Kendrick Meek (D-FL)  
Rep. Adam Putnam (R-FL)  
Rep. Thomas Rooney (R-FL)  
Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)  
Rep. Robert Wexler (D-FL)  
Rep. C.W. Young (R-FL)  
Rep. John Barrow (D-GA)  
Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-GA)  
Rep. Henry Johnson (D-GA)  
Rep. John Lewis (D-GA)  
Rep. Jim Marshall (D-GA)  
Rep. David Scott (D-GA)  
Rep. Neil Abercrombie (D-HI)  
Rep. Mazie Hirono (D-HI)

Rep. Leonard Boswell (D-IA)  
Rep. Bruce Braley (D-IA)  
Rep. Dave Loebsack (D-IA)  
Rep. Walt Minnick (D-ID)  
Rep. Melissa Bean (D-IL)  
Rep. Judy Biggert (R-IL)  
Rep. Jerry Costello (D-IL)  
Rep. Danny Davis (D-IL)  
Rep. Bill Foster (D-IL)  
Rep. Luis Gutierrez (D-IL)  
Rep. Deborah Halvorson (D-IL)  
Rep. Phil Hare (D-IL)  
Rep. Jesse Jackson (D-IL)  
Rep. Timothy Johnson (R-IL)  
Rep. Mark Kirk (R-IL)  
Rep. Daniel Lipinski (D-IL)  
Rep. Peter Roskam (R-IL)  
Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL)  
Rep. Janice Schakowsky (D-IL)  
Rep. Aaron Schock (R-IL)  
Rep. John Shimkus (R-IL)  
Rep. Steve Buyer (R-IN)  
Rep. Joseph Donnelly (D-IN)  
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Rep. Baron Hill (D-IN)  
Rep. Peter Visclosky (D-IN)  
Rep. Dennis Moore (D-KS)  
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Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-KY)  
Rep. Harold Rogers (R-KY)  
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Rep. Charles Melancon (D-LA)  
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Rep. William Delahunt (D-MA)  
Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA)  
Rep. Stephen Lynch (D-MA)  
Rep. Edward Markey (D-MA)  
Rep. James McGovern (D-MA)  
Rep. Richard Neal (D-MA)  
Rep. John Olver (D-MA)  
Rep. John Tierney (D-MA)  
Rep. Niki Tsongas (D-MA)  
Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD)  
Rep. Donna Edwards (D-MD)  
Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD)  
Rep. Frank Kratovil (D-MD)  
Rep. C.A. Ruppberger (D-MD)  
Rep. John Sarbanes (D-MD)  
Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)  
Rep. Michael Michaud (D-ME)  
Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME)  
Rep. David Camp (R-MI)  
Rep. Vernon Ehlers (R-MI)  
Rep. Peter Hoekstra (R-MI)  
Rep. Dale Kildee (D-MI)  
Rep. Carolyn Kilpatrick (D-MI)  
Rep. Sander Levin (D-MI)  
Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-MI)  
Rep. Candice Miller (R-MI)  
Rep. Gary Peters (D-MI)  
Rep. Michael Rogers (R-MI)  
Rep. Mark Schauer (D-MI)  
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Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI)  
Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN)  
Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN)  
Rep. James Oberstar (D-MN)  
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Rep. Samuel Graves (R-MO)  
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Rep. Leonard Lance (R-NJ)  
Rep. Frank LoBiondo (R-NJ)  
Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ)  
Rep. William Pascrell (D-NJ)  
Rep. Donald Payne (D-NJ)  
Rep. Steven Rothman (D-NJ)  
Rep. Albio Sires (D-NJ)  
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Rep. Steve Kagen (D-WI)  
Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI)  
Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI)  
Rep. David Obey (D-WI)  
Rep. Thomas Petri (R-WI)  
Rep. Shelley Capito (R-WV)  
Rep. Alan Mollohan (D-WV)  
Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV)

## Senate

Committee on Environment & Public Works

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Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT)  
Sen. Thomas Carper (D-DE)  
Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ)  
Sen. Benjamin Cardin (D-MD)  
Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT)  
Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)  
Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)  
Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM)  
Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR)  
Sen. Kirstin Gillebrand (D-NY)  
Sen. James Inhofe (R-OK)  
Sen. George Voinovich (R-OH)  
Sen. David Vitter (R-LA)  
Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY)  
Sen. Arlen Specter (D-PA)  
Sen. Mike Crapo (R-ID)  
Sen. Christopher Bond (R-MO)  
Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN)



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

## Repeal the 3% Withholding Mandate

### ISSUE

Section 511 of the Tax Increase Prevention and Reconciliation Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-222) is a sweeping new requirement mandating that federal, state, and local governments withhold three percent from payments to engineering firms and other contractors for goods and services. The law, which takes effect in 2012, will cover all payments for products and services made by the federal government and state governments, as well as local governments that have annual expenditures that exceed \$100 million.

ACEC is deeply concerned about the impact and unintended consequences of this new requirement on all companies that receive contracts or other forms of government payments. The provision was designed to deter tax evasion, but it will primarily penalize honest taxpayers. In addition, implementing the provision will cost federal agencies and state and local governments billions of dollars. A Department of Defense study estimates that it will cost DOD alone \$17 billion in the first five years to comply with this mandate.

### KEY POINTS

- The withholding mandate will apply to the total cost of the contract, not to the net revenue generated or the size of the company. Many companies realize a profit margin of less than three percent on a contract, and withholding three percent up front for tax purposes will force them to divert funds needed to complete the contract, creating cash flow problems. As a consequence, government agencies may see the cost for goods and services increase as firms seek to offset the impact of the three percent tax withholding mandate.
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- The new mandate will have an adverse effect on smaller firms, both in terms of creating cash flow problems as well as affecting the important role they often play as subcontractors on large government contracts. Prime contractors may be compelled to pass the costs associated with the three percent withholding requirement to their subcontractors, or possibly shift from subcontracting work out to performing it internally.
- 
- The law will also impose significant administrative costs and information reporting requirements on governments and businesses. This will be a serious concern for subchapter S corporations and other pass-through entities because these withholdings will have to be reported to each partner in the partnership and will affect their tax liability.

### ACTION REQUESTED

- Cosponsor H.R. 275 introduced by Representatives Kendrick Meek (D-FL) and Wally Herger (R-CA) and S. 292 introduced by Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA) to repeal Section 511 and eliminate the 3% withholding mandate.
- Oppose efforts to broaden the withholding requirement or speed up its implementation.

## Cosponsors of House and Senate 3% Repeal Bills

(Note: this list represents all cosponsors from 2007-2008 – the highlighted names have cosponsored this year)

Rep. Donald Young (R-AK)  
Rep. Spencer Bachus (R-AL)  
Rep. Artur Davis (D-AL)  
Rep. Marion Berry (D-AR)  
Rep. John Boozman (R-AR)  
Rep. Michael Ross (D-AR)  
Rep. Vic Snyder (D-AR)  
Rep. Jeffrey Flake (R-AZ)  
Rep. Trent Franks (R-AZ)  
Rep. Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ)  
Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-AZ)  
Rep. Brian Bilbray (R-CA)  
Rep. Mary Bono Mack (R-CA)  
Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA)  
Rep. John Campbell (R-CA)  
Rep. Dennis Cardoza (D-CA)

Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA)  
Rep. Bob Filner (D-CA)  
Rep. Jane Harman (D-CA)  
**Rep. Wally Herger (R-CA)**  
Rep. Michael Honda (D-CA)  
Rep. Darrell Issa (R-CA)  
Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)  
Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA)  
Rep. Jerry McNerney (D-CA)  
Rep. Gary Miller (R-CA)  
Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-CA)  
Rep. Devin Nunes (R-CA)  
Rep. George Radanovich (R-CA)  
Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA)  
Rep. Edward Royce (R-CA)  
Rep. Ellen Tauscher (D-CA)  
Rep. Diane Watson (D-CA)  
Rep. Edwin Perlmutter (D-CO)  
Rep. John Salazar (D-CO)  
Rep. Christopher Murphy (D-CT)  
Rep. Eleanor Norton (D-DC)  
Rep. Allen Boyd (D-FL)  
Rep. Corrine Brown (D-FL)  
Rep. Virginia Brown-Waite (R-FL)  
Rep. Vern Buchanan (R-FL)  
Rep. Katherine Castor (D-FL)  
Rep. Ander Crenshaw (R-FL)

Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart (R-FL)  
Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)  
Rep. Alcee Hastings (D-FL)  
Rep. Ronald Klein (D-FL)  
**Rep. Kendrick Meek (D-FL) - bill sponsor**  
Rep. Jeff Miller (R-FL)  
Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)  
Rep. Debbie Wasserman-Schultz (D-FL)  
Rep. Robert Wexler (D-FL)  
Rep. C.W. Young (R-FL)

Rep. John Barrow (D-GA)  
Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-GA)  
Rep. Phil Gingrey (R-GA)  
Rep. Henry Johnson (D-GA)  
Rep. John Lewis (D-GA)  
Rep. Thomas Price (R-GA)  
Rep. Lynn Westmoreland (R-GA)

Rep. Mazie Hirono (D-HI)  
Rep. Leonard Boswell (D-IA)  
**Rep. Bruce Braley (D-IA)**  
Rep. Steve King (R-IA)  
**Rep. Thomas Latham (R-IA)**  
**Rep. Michael Simpson (R-ID)**  
Rep. Melissa Bean (D-IL)  
Rep. Judy Biggert (R-IL)  
Rep. Danny Davis (D-IL)  
Rep. Bill Foster (D-IL)  
Rep. Phil Hare (D-IL)  
Rep. Jesse Jackson (D-IL)  
Rep. Timothy Johnson (R-IL)  
Rep. Donald Manzullo (R-IL)  
Rep. Peter Roskam (R-IL)  
Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL)  
**Rep. Aaron Schock (R-IL)**  
Rep. John Shimkus (R-IL)  
Rep. Dan Burton (R-IN)  
Rep. Steve Buyer (R-IN)  
Rep. Joseph Donnelly (D-IN)  
Rep. Brad Ellsworth (D-IN)  
Rep. Baron Hill (D-IN)  
Rep. Mark Souder (R-IN)  
Rep. Dennis Moore (D-KS)  
Rep. Jerry Moran (R-KS)  
Rep. Todd Tiahrt (R-KS)  
Rep. Benjamin Chandler (D-KY)  
Rep. Geoffrey Davis (R-KY)  
Rep. Harold Rogers (R-KY)

Rep. Edward Whitfield (R-KY)  
Rep. Rodney Alexander (R-LA)  
Rep. Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD)  
Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD)  
Rep. C.A. Ruppberger (D-MD)  
Rep. John Sarbanes (D-MD)  
Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)  
Rep. Michael Michaud (D-ME)  
Rep. David Camp (R-MI)  
Rep. Peter Hoekstra (R-MI)  
Rep. Dale Kildee (D-MI)  
Rep. Carolyn Kilpatrick (D-MI)  
Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-MI)

Rep. Candice Miller (R-MI)  
Rep. Michael Rogers (R-MI)  
**Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-MN)**  
Rep. John Kline (R-MN)  
Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN)

Rep. Collin Peterson (D-MN)  
Rep. Timothy Walz (D-MN)  
Rep. Todd Akin (R-MO)  
Rep. Russ Carnahan (D-MO)  
Rep. Emanuel Cleaver (D-MO)

**Rep. Samuel Graves (R-MO)**  
Rep. Dennis Rehberg (R-MT)  
Rep. George Butterfield (D-NC)  
Rep. Howard Coble (R-NC)  
Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC)  
Rep. Walter Jones (R-NC)  
Rep. Mike McIntyre (D-NC)

Rep. Bradley Miller (D-NC)  
Rep. Sue Myrick (R-NC)  
Rep. Heath Shuler (D-NC)  
Rep. Jeffrey Fortenberry (R-NE)  
Rep. Adrian Smith (R-NE)  
Rep. Lee Terry (R-NE)  
Rep. Paul Hodes (D-NH)  
Rep. Robert Andrews (D-NJ)  
Rep. Scott Garrett (R-NJ)  
Rep. Frank LoBiondo (R-NJ)  
Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ)  
Rep. William Pascrell (D-NJ)  
Rep. Steven Rothman (D-NJ)  
Rep. Albio Sires (D-NJ)  
**Rep. Shelley Berkley (D-NV)**  
Rep. Dean Heller (R-NV)

Rep. Michael Arcuri (D-NY)  
Rep. Timothy Bishop (D-NY)  
Rep. Peter King (R-NY)  
Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY)  
**Rep. John McHugh (R-NY)**  
Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-NY)  
Rep. Edolphus Towns (D-NY)  
Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-NY)  
Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH)  
Rep. Steven LaTourette (R-OH)  
Rep. Robert Latta (R-OH)  
Rep. Timothy Ryan (D-OH)  
Rep. Jean Schmidt (R-OH)

Rep. Zachary Space (D-OH)  
Rep. Betty Sutton (D-OH)  
Rep. Patrick Tiberi (R-OH)  
Rep. Daniel Boren (D-OK)  
Rep. Thomas Cole (R-OK)  
Rep. Frank Lucas (R-OK)  
Rep. John Sullivan (R-OK)  
Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR)  
Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR)  
Rep. David Wu (D-OR)  
**Rep. Jason Altmire (D-PA)**  
Rep. Robert Brady (D-PA)  
Rep. Christopher Carney (D-PA)

Rep. Michael Doyle (D-PA)  
Rep. James Gerlach (R-PA)  
Rep. Tim Holden (D-PA)  
Rep. Tim Murphy (R-PA)  
Rep. Joseph Pitts (R-PA)

Rep. Todd Platts (R-PA)  
Rep. Joe Sestak (D-PA)  
Rep. William Shuster (R-PA)  
Rep. Joe Wilson (R-SC)  
Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin (D-SD)  
**Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)**  
Rep. Lincoln Davis (D-TN)  
Rep. John Duncan (R-TN)  
Rep. Zach Wamp (R-TN)  
Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX)  
Rep. Michael Burgess (R-TX)  
Rep. John Carter (R-TX)

Rep. Michael Conaway (R-TX)  
Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX)  
Rep. John Culberson (R-TX)  
Rep. Lloyd Doggett (D-TX)  
Rep. Chet Edwards (D-TX)  
Rep. Charles Gonzalez (D-TX)  
Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX)  
Rep. Al Green (D-TX)  
Rep. Jeb Hensarling (R-TX)  
Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX)  
Rep. Eddie Johnson (D-TX)  
Rep. Samuel Johnson (R-TX)  
Rep. Kenneth Marchant (R-TX)  
Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX)  
Rep. Robert Neugebauer (R-TX)  
**Rep. Ronald Paul (R-TX)**

Rep. Ted Poe (R-TX)  
Rep. Silvestre Reyes (D-TX)  
Rep. Pete Sessions (R-TX)  
Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX)  
Rep. Robert Bishop (R-UT)  
Rep. James Matheson (D-UT)  
Rep. Eric Cantor (R-VA)  
Rep. J. Forbes (R-VA)  
Rep. James Moran (D-VA)  
Rep. Robert Wittman (R-VA)  
Rep. Peter Welch (D-VT)  
Rep. Brian Baird (D-WA)  
Rep. Richard Hastings (R-WA)

Rep. Rick Larsen (D-WA)  
Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA)  
Rep. David Reichert (R-WA)  
Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)  
Rep. Steve Kagen (D-WI)  
Rep. Thomas Petri (R-WI)  
Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI)  
Rep. F. Sensenbrenner (R-WI)  
Rep. Shelley Capito (R-WV)  
Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV)

## Cosponsors of S 777 & S 292

Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)  
**Sen. Saxby Chambliss (R-GA)**  
**Sen. Johnny Isakson (R-GA)**  
**Sen. Pat Roberts (R-KS)**

**Sen. David Vitter (R-LA)**  
Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME)  
Sen. Thad Cochran (R-MS)  
Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS)  
**Sen. George Voinovich (R-OH)**

**Sen. James Inhofe (R-OK)**  
**Sen. Arlen Specter (R-PA)**  
Sen. Robert Corker (R-TN)  
**Sen. Robert Bennett (R-UT)**



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

## Maximizing Private Sector Innovation

### ISSUE

Policymakers should embrace America's engineering industry – for innovations in transportation, environmental and energy infrastructure – and reject efforts that limit the ability of public agencies to use the private sector.

Engineering companies play an essential role in helping public agencies to deliver critical infrastructure – to reduce congestion on the nation's roads and bridges, provide clean drinking water to consumers, and develop energy-efficient and sustainable "green" buildings. The industry addresses a range of public policy challenges that improve the quality of life of every American, while providing innovation, expertise, and cost savings to the taxpayer.

Agencies that use America's engineering industry gain access to the unique specialties and experience of thousands of talented firms that have been responsible for designing advanced infrastructure and facilities to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century needs. Firms compete based on their qualifications and ability to deliver on time and on budget. Contracting out also enables public agencies to adapt quickly to economic conditions and fluctuating workloads, ramping up their programs when funds are available and ramping down when funding cycles demand savings.

By contrast, government policies that require the sole use of in-house engineer workforces stifle innovation and competition, and dampen economic growth.

### KEY POINTS

- Public agencies should rely on the private engineering industry to address complex engineering challenges and deliver a 21<sup>st</sup> century infrastructure.
- Taxpayers benefit from innovation, on-time performance and cost savings when engineering contracts are awarded based on qualifications, experience and track record.
- America's energy independence, transportation mobility, access to clean water, response to climate change, safety and security, and other public policy priorities depend upon America's engineering industry.

### ACTION REQUESTED

Promote policies that maximize the use of America's private engineering industry; oppose efforts to restrict the ability of federal and state agencies to contract out for engineering services.