



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

NEWS RELEASE

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ACEC Applauds Introduction Of \$375 Billion TEA-21 Reauthorization Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) today praised the leadership of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for introducing its proposal to reauthorize the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21). The bill authorizes \$375 billion for highways and transit improvements over the next six years.

ACEC is the Washington-D.C.-based engineering industry association representing the business interests of approximately 6,000 independent engineering companies throughout the United States.

“Enough of the neglect and simply doing the minimal to maintain our deteriorating infrastructure,” said ACEC President Dave Raymond. “We need a minimum of \$375 billion now to address the real demands of our transportation system – especially if we are to have any hope for a sound economic recovery.”

Raymond cited statistics which clearly show the need for \$375 billion in highway and transit investment, such as traffic congestion costing the nation \$70 billion, and 3.5 billion hours of lost productivity in 2001. Also, of the more 42,000 fatalities and almost 3 million drivers injured last year, 30 percent were due to poor roadway conditions, according to USDOT.

USDOT statistics also show that federal investment in transportation infrastructure results in immediate economic benefits and job growth. Every \$1 billion spent on transportation results in 47,500 new, well-paying jobs. Every \$1 spent on transportation equals \$5.70 in economic benefits.

The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) is the business association of America’s engineering industry, representing approximately 6,000 independent engineering companies throughout the United States engaged in the development of America’s transportation, environmental, industrial, and other infrastructure. Founded in 1910 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., ACEC is a national federation of 51 state and regional organizations.

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