

113th Congressional ACEC Scorecard

House Descriptions

1. **Sandy Supplemental Appropriations, H.R. 152** -- provided \$50.5 billion in immediate and long-term relief in response to Superstorm Sandy, including \$17 billion in immediate aid and \$33.5 billion for near- and long-term assistance. ACEC supported the bill because of significant funding for infrastructure programs, particularly mitigation and resiliency projects, including Army Corps of Engineers construction, FEMA disaster relief, Department of Transportation emergency relief, and HUD community development funding. (Roll Call #23, Passed 241-180)
2. **H.R. 2084 – Partnership to Build America Act** -- authorizes a \$50 billion national infrastructure financing entity to provide loans, loan guarantees and other financial products to states and municipalities to leverage funds for transportation, energy, communications, water, and education infrastructure projects. The fund would be capitalized by the one-time tax-free repatriation of overseas corporate earnings through the sale of 50-year bonds. ACEC endorsed the bill as an innovative way to inject more funding into domestic infrastructure and facilitate public-private partnerships. ACEC supports cosponsorship.
3. **H.R. 1877, the Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2013** -- invests \$13.8 billion over five years in wastewater infrastructure through the Clean Water SRF. The bill also provides two alternative funding mechanisms to supplement the SRF and provide long-term funding. ACEC supports cosponsorship.
4. **H.R. 3, the Northern Route Approval Act** -- declares that a presidential permit shall not be required for the construction and operation of the Keystone XL pipeline. The bill passed by a vote of 241-175. ACEC supports passage.
5. **HR 2775, FY 2014 Continuing Appropriations and Debt Limit Suspension** – motion to concur with the Senate to reopen federal agencies through January 15, 2014, and extend federal borrowing authority through February 7, 2014. The legislation also requires the Department of Health and Human Services to verify income eligibility for people applying for tax subsidies under ACA, and provides retroactive pay for federal employees furloughed. Motion passed 285-144 (Roll Call #550). ACEC supports passage.
6. **H.R. 3080, the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2013** -- authorizes new Corps of Engineers water projects with ACEC-backed reforms to the project delivery process. WRRDA also creates a Water Infrastructure Public Private Partnership Program that will enable non-federal entities to manage up to 15 water resource projects around the country to evaluate cost-saving project delivery methods and other benefits. The bill passed by a vote of 417-3. ACEC supports passage.
7. **Highway Trust Fund Fix (H.R. 5021)** – transfers \$10.8 billion into the Highway Trust Fund to avoid a shortfall in funding that would have forced the U.S. DOT to ration and

delay project reimbursements to states; also extends MAP-21 highway and transit programs through May 2015. ACEC consistently advocated for a short-term patch for the Trust Fund in addition to action on a long-term, sustainable funding solution. Roll Call #414 – initial House passage; Approved 367-55. ACEC supports passage.

8. **Highway Program Devolution to States (H.R. 3486)** – would phase down the federal gas tax to 3.7 cents per gallon and cut federal funding to \$7.6 billion by FY 2019, an 80% reduction. The bill would force states to make up the shortfall by raising their own taxes to compensate for the lost revenue, an unbearable burden that would lead to an even larger infrastructure deficit. ACEC has consistently supported a robust federal role in transportation infrastructure and strongly opposes the bill. Co-sponsorship would be scored as a negative.
9. **Bipartisan letter on cash accounting** – supports retaining current rules that allow engineering firms organized as passthrough entities or qualified personal service corporations to use the cash method of accounting, and opposes a tax reform proposal that would require firms with over \$10 million in revenues to switch to the accrual method of accounting. ACEC supports the letter because cash accounting better reflects the cash flow patterns of engineering firms. 233 Members of the House signed the letter.
10. **The Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 Conference Report** -- authorizes new Corps of Engineers water projects with ACEC-backed reforms to the project delivery process. The conference report also includes a number of critical reforms to the Clean Water Act State Revolving Fund (SRF), including a requirement to use QBS or an equivalent state QBS method for engineering and other design activities, as well as construction management, when using federal funds on wastewater projects. The bill passed by a vote of 412-4. ACEC supports passage.
11. **The North American Energy Infrastructure Act (H.R. 3301)** - H.R. 3301 consolidates and standardizes the cross-border permitting process for Oil pipelines, natural gas pipelines and electric transmission lines. The bill passed 238-173. ACEC supports passage.
12. **The Energy Efficiency Improvement Act of 2014 (H.R. 2126)** – H.R. 2126 includes the Better Buildings Act which will drive private sector innovation in energy efficiency. It also increases the energy efficiency of federal government data centers and discloses the amount of energy consumed in federally leased buildings and begins benchmarking these buildings. The bill passed 375-36. ACEC supports passage.
13. **Tax Extenders (H.R. 5771)** – extends for 2014 a package of tax credits and deductions, including the R&D tax credit; bonus depreciation for firms of all sizes; higher small business expensing limits; parity between employer-provided mass transit and parking benefits; the production tax credit for wind and other renewable energy sources; the energy efficient commercial buildings tax deduction; and language that makes it easier for S corporations that were previously structured as C corporations to access the firm's capital without tax penalties. Approved by a vote of 378 to 46 (Roll Call #544).