

June 22, 2016

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader U.S. Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McConnell,

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 87 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 Society of Civil Engineers  
American Association of Port Authorities  
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 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  
Illinois Farm Bureau  
Inland Rivers, Ports & Terminals, Inc.  
International Union of Operating Engineers  
Iowa Com Growers Association  
Kansas City Water Services  
Laborers International Union of North America

Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority  
MAPPS  
Mayor Miner of Syracuse, NY  
Mississippi Water Resources Association  
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 Regional Councils  
National Electrical Contractors Association  
National Ground Water Association  
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. 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