

September 14, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger Chairwoman House Committee on Appropriations H-307, The Capitol

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development,
and Related Agencies
2358-A Rayburn House Office Building

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member House Committee on Appropriations H-307, The Capitol

The Honorable Mike Quigley
Ranking Member
House Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development,
and Related Agencies
2358-A Rayburn House Office Building

Dear Chairwoman Granger, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chairman Cole and Ranking Member Quigley,

On behalf of the 450 members of the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA), we write to express our gratitude to the House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies for their work to advance the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 spending bill, which fully funds the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

NSSGA represents the aggregates and industrial sand industry of our country, with over 9,000 facilities and more than 100,000 employees in high-paying jobs. This industry procures 2.5 billion tons of aggregates annually, which are crucial in sustaining our lifestyle and constructing our nation's infrastructure and communities. The products sourced by this industry are fundamental components required for building roads, airports, transit, rail, ports, clean water and energy networks.

NSSGA is encouraged to see the \$68.2 billion bill which includes proper investments to improve and modernize our nation's aging infrastructure. The legislation includes key bipartisan polices that are important to the aggregates industry, including:

- Clarifying the implementation of Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA) provision as it pertains to 70917(c) materials
- Securing necessary funding and resources available for Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) airport technology research



- Key language that increases congressional oversight on starting a key working group that will
 examine future access to our needed materials, and
- Language that ensures material choices decisions are made by experts on the ground.

The urgency to repair our nation's current infrastructure has never been more pronounced. It is a necessity to pass a complete FY 2024 bill as soon as possible in order to raise the obligation limit consistent with the IIJA-authorized level of spending from the Highway Trust Fund. Our members aim to get transportation projects through the pipeline and across the finish line as soon as possible. Failing to get this bill across the floor would prevent states and localities from utilizing the funding increase to enhance our congested roads and deteriorating bridges. Failure to act on this critical legislation would hinder progress and drive inflation.

We appreciate Chairwoman Granger, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chairman Cole and Ranking Member Quigley, and all the members of the committee for their hard work on moving ahead FY 2024 bill and look forward to their continued collaboration on passing final legislation that continues to support a wide range of infrastructure projects.

Thank you for the consideration. If you have any questions, please reach out anytime.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Johnson President and CEO

National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association