

THE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS INDUSTRY **ON THE ISSUES**



Ensuring Fair Access to Materials Research, Development & Deployment

The aggregates, concrete and asphalt industry strongly believes Congress should maintain and support material neutral, performance-based research and investment into building materials solutions. This should enhance the durability and improve the performance and sustainability of our nation's infrastructure. As Congress considers critical legislation, such as annual appropriations, defense authorization and surface transportation reauthorization, we urge policymakers to incorporate material-neutral language in future legislation and refrain from language that gives one construction material a meritless advantage over others.

■ Aggregates are essential raw materials used in nearly all residential, commercial and industrial construction and public works projects, such as roads, highways, bridges, rail, dams, airports and water projects. Their vast prevalence and utilization are a testament to the time-tested benefits they provide, include being low-cost, reliable, durable and environmentally sound.

■ The construction materials industry has always supported Congress's longstanding work to promote research and development of building solutions that advance building materials' performance, sustainability and reliability. That is because industry operators value innovation and are constantly working to develop state-of-the-art technologies that improve our homes, businesses and schools.

■ As Congress continues to work with the administration to shape the next generation of infrastructure investment, we strongly support increased funding for critical research and development of building materials solutions that help to build stronger and more efficient communities. Policymakers in Washington must ensure that all materials and innovative solutions are eligible to access these opportunities.

■ Congress should not limit critical research dollars or promote one material over others through exclusive marketing activities. Projects should be selected by their merits and decisions should be left to engineers and those with technical expertise in designing and executing projects. This will ensure that only the best solutions for our infrastructure challenges are delivered at a cost-friendly solution for taxpayers.

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■ Congress and the administration should continue to provide robust funding and opportunities that allow all materials and building solutions to compete on their merits. This will spur greater innovation, as only the best material solutions will be utilized to improve our roads bridges, tunnels, airports, rail networks and waterways leading to sustained economic growth and a better future for all Americans.



*For more information, please
contact staff at:*

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