

THE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS INDUSTRY **ON THE ISSUES**



Ensuring Fair Access to Materials Research, Development & Deployment

The aggregates, concrete and asphalt industries urge Congress to support material-neutral, performance-based deployment investments into building material solutions that enhance durability and improve the performance and sustainability of our nation's infrastructure. As Congress considers critical legislation, such as annual appropriations, defense authorizations and surface transportation reauthorization legislation, we urge policymakers to incorporate material-neutral language in future legislation and to refrain from language that prefers or promotes any construction material over others.

■ Aggregates, asphalt and concrete are essential 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, including 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 the performance, real-world deployment, sustainability and reliability of building materials. Industry operators value innovation and are constantly working to develop state-of-the-art technologies that improve our homes, roads, 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 that help build stronger, more efficient communities while advancing proven and performance-based pavement designs and roadway materials. 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 on their merits and decisions should be left to engineers, who best understand the unique costs and performance specifications of their projects, as well as 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.

■ 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.

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For more information, please contact staff at:

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