

PERSPECTIVE:

Ensuring Fair Access to Materials Research, Development and Deployment

NSSGA
NATIONAL STONE, SAND
& GRAVEL ASSOCIATION

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

NSSGA has always supported Congress's longstanding work to promote research and development of building solutions that advances the performance, sustainability, reliability of the building materials. That is because NSSGA members value innovation and are always working to develop state-of-the-art technologies that improves 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.

It is imperative policymakers in Washington ensure that all materials and innovative solutions are eligible to access these opportunities. Politicians should not be limiting critical research dollars or promoting one material over others through select marketing activities. Projects should be decided on by their merits and decisions should be left to engineers and those with technical expertise in designing and executing projects. This will ensure only the best solutions, that truly solve our infrastructure challenges, are delivered at the best expense of the 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.

IN BRIEF:

NSSGA strongly believes Congress should maintain and support materials neutral, performance-based research and investment into building materials solutions that enhance the durability and improve the performance and sustainability of our Nation's infrastructure.



ABOUT NSSGA: *Aggregates are the second most utilized product in the world and are the foundation to create buildings, roads, airports and bridges. They are indispensable in developing the infrastructure needed to access clean water; deliver reliable energy; and advance environmental stewardship. The National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA) represents more than 90 percent of the crushed stone and 70 percent of the sand and gravel produced annually in the United States.*

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