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Thomas A. Allegretti
President & CEO

December 6, 2016

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bob Gibbs
Chairman
Subcommittee on Water Resources &
Environment
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Grace Napolitano
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Water Resources &
Environment
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Shuster and Gibbs and Ranking Members DeFazio and Napolitano:

The American Waterways Operators salutes you for your leadership and commitment to returning the Water Resources and Development Act (WRDA) to a biennial process. We strongly support the latest iteration of WRDA, the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act, which we know was the product of many hours of hard work between House and Senate conferees.

As you know, over 5,000 tugboats and towboats and more than 31,000 barges move nearly 800 million tons of domestic cargo each year on 12,000 miles of navigable channels. A working waterways system allows our members to support the U.S. economy and provide family-wage jobs for tens of thousands of hardworking Americans from coast to coast. In short, waterways work for America.

We look forward to swift action on WIIN by the House and Senate and offer our thanks for your continued support of the domestic maritime industry.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Allegretti