

May 11, 2015

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

Dear Chairman Shuster:

The Small Business and Entrepreneurship Council (SBE Council) is pleased to support H.R. 1732, the "Regulatory Integrity Protection Act of 2015."

This legislation gives the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 30 days to withdraw the intrusive Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule.

EPA says its intent with WOTUS is to clarify the Clean Water Act (CWA), but, in practice, it will mean unnecessary and costly red tape, litigation, and lost businesses and jobs. The rule will extend federal bureaucrats' reach into every corner of the American economy, affecting small businesses of every type, including those involved in, among many others, oil and gas production, mining, homebuilding, and agriculture. WOTUS will wreak havoc on the permitting process, and will upend the collaborative relationship between the federal government and states in this critical area.

H.R. 1732 is an important bill that will protect small employers and landowners from EPA's clear overreach. On behalf of SBE Council's more than 100,000 members nationwide, thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Karen Kerrigan President & CEO