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The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid
Democratic Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

**KEY VOTE ALERT: AED URGES "YES" VOTE ON
THE FIXING AMERICA'S SURFACE TRANSPORTATION (FAST) ACT**

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leaders McConnell, Reid, and Pelosi:

Associated Equipment Distributors (AED) urges all House and Senate members to **support final passage of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act**. AED is the trade association representing distributors of construction, mining, energy, forestry, industrial, and agricultural equipment.

Federal transportation programs are in desperate need of the certainty, project delivery improvements, and other reforms provided by the FAST Act. AED estimates the FAST Act will generate \$13.27 billion in equipment market activity (construction equipment sales, rental, and product support) over the next half decade and support more than 4,000 dealership jobs nationwide on an annual basis. The certainty and investments will allow equipment distributorships, which are overwhelmingly small businesses, to hire more workers, expand capacity, purchase more service trucks, and even open new locations.

Infrastructure investment not only creates jobs and economic activity in the construction sector, but also contributes to growth and prosperity throughout the broader economy. As researchers from the College of William & Mary have shown, one dollar spent on infrastructure construction produces roughly double (\$1.92) the initial spending in direct and indirect economic output. The long-term impact is also significant, with a dollar in aggregate public infrastructure spending generating \$3.21 in economic output (GDP) over a twenty-year period.

AED also strongly supports the FAST Act's provisions reforming the federal permitting and the hours of service exemption petition processes, reauthorizing the Export-Import Bank, and modifying the Water Infrastructure Finance & Innovation Act (WIFIA) to allow greater private investment.

Given the lack of new user fee revenues for the Highway Trust Fund, the FAST Act is not the perfect solution. But it does restore near-term certainty to construction markets and includes important reforms. **AED urges you to support the FAST Act**. The association will key vote final passage in its congressional scorecard.

Sincerely,

Brian P. McGuire
President & CEO

The association of leaders in equipment distribution.