

May 19, 2026

The Honorable Sam Graves  
Chairman  
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen  
Ranking Member  
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen:

On behalf of the Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC), I write in support of the BUILD America 250 Act and the Committee's efforts to advance a long-term surface transportation reauthorization package that strengthens America's infrastructure, modernizes transportation systems, and improves project delivery.

Of importance to IEC, provisions of the BUILD America 250 Act will help streamline permitting and environmental review processes, improve interagency coordination, and accelerate investment in critical infrastructure projects.

Established in 1957, IEC is a trade association representing more than 4,100 members with 53 educational campuses and affiliate local chapters across the country. IEC is the nation's premier trade association representing America's independent electrical and systems contractors. In 2026, IEC will educate more than 22,000 electrical apprentices through world-class government-registered apprenticeship programs. IEC advocates for a competitive environment benefiting merit shop contractors, their employees, customers, and taxpayers through the merit shop philosophy that promotes the concept of free enterprise, open competition, and economic opportunity for all.

IEC member electrical contractors perform critical services for transportation infrastructure projects in communities across the country and play a key role in building and maintaining the transportation and utility systems necessary to support America's economic growth, mobility, and public safety.

IEC appreciates the Committee's focus on improving project delivery and reducing unnecessary delays associated with duplicative environmental reviews and permitting inefficiencies. IEC supports provisions designed to expand the use of categorical exclusions, improve federal agency coordination, and accelerate transportation project timelines while maintaining important environmental safeguards.

IEC further appreciates that the legislation does not encourage or impose government-mandated project labor agreements or other restrictive labor mandates that could unnecessarily limit competition, increase costs, and reduce contractor participation on federally assisted transportation projects.

With nearly 90 percent of the U.S. construction workforce choosing not to belong to a union, America's infrastructure challenges require an all-of-the-above workforce strategy that fully utilizes both union and nonunion tradespeople and contractors alike.

IEC and its members stand ready to work with the Committee to ensure the final legislation promotes infrastructure investment, streamlines permitting roadblocks, expands workforce development opportunities, encourages robust competition, and supports efficient project delivery.

IEC looks forward to working with Congress on advancing commonsense policies to deliver quality transportation infrastructure to America.

Thank you for your leadership on this important legislation and for considering IEC's views.

Sincerely,

Submitted on behalf of Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) by:

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