



# INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL ENGINEERS AFL-CIO & CLC

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September 12, 2018

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the members of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE), including those employed by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), we are writing regarding tomorrow's consideration of America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (S. 3021). IFPTE applauds Chairmen Shuster and Barrasso, and Ranking Members DeFazio and Carper for crafting this bipartisan bill to authorize the important work of the USACE over the next two years. We urge you to support this bill.

First and foremost, this is a jobs bill that will maintain and create tens of thousands of jobs to support and maintain America's water infrastructure needs. The legislation authorizes much needed USACE water infrastructure projects, including along our rivers, intercoastal waterways, ports and harbors, while providing certainty to taxpayers and business alike as to the cohesive navigability of our inland waterways.

IFPTE is particularly pleased with the inclusion of the bipartisan sponsored Navigation Workers Protection Act, sponsored by Representatives Cheri Bustos and Rodney Davis. This long overdue language will ensure that the essential functions and missions at USACE hydro and navigational dams are designated as essential federal functions. Such primary mission areas, including flood risk and storm damage reduction, navigation, and ecosystem restoration, protect life and property for thousands of people, and promotes commerce at our nation's ports and waterways. These civilian employees performing these functions serve a vital role in supporting the military and evolving Homeland missions as our critical U.S. navigational infrastructures are now on the front lines. IFPTE applauds the bipartisan support that ensured that this language found its way into the final bill.

IFPTE urges you to vote in support of S. 3021. Should you or your staff have any questions, feel free to contact either of us directly.

Sincerely,

Paul Shearon,  
President

Matthew Biggs,  
Secretary-Treasurer/  
Legislative Director