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CONSTRUCTION
COALITION**

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Better America!**

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September 13, 2018

Dear Representative:

The 31 national associations and construction trade unions of the Transportation Construction Coalition ("TCC") urge you to support the House Amendment to S. 3021, the "America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018." This legislation will provide much needed investments for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Civil Works projects, including dredging, locks, levees, dams, and water supply projects, as well as critical drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects.

Water resources infrastructure is critical to the economy and yields high returns on investment. Harbors maintained by USACE handle 95 percent of America's import and export trade, while the inland waterways system moves freight at half the cost of rail and one-tenth the cost of truck transportation. Spending just above \$5 billion a year on this program generates an estimated net benefit of \$87.1 billion in economic development, a 16-to-1 return, and \$27.3 billion in revenue to the U.S. Treasury, a 5-to-1 return. Critically, USACE projects prevent an estimated \$48.5 billion in annual economic losses from damaging storms and severe weather.

In terms of water infrastructure, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's most recent surveys estimated approximately \$655 billion of drinking water and wastewater infrastructure needs nationwide over the next 20 years. There are about 52,000 community water systems and 16,000 public wastewater treatment systems that provide drinking water and wastewater services to much of the population, many of which need repair and upgrade

If fully funded through the annual appropriations process, S. 3021 will help America more quickly realize the benefits of water resources and drinking and wastewater infrastructure projects in a fiscally responsible manner. As such, the TCC urges a YES vote on the bill.

Sincerely,

The Transportation Construction Coalition