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December 5, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Democratic Leader United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson and Leader Jeffries:

On behalf of the more than 530,000 members of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), I want to express our union's support for the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (WRDA 2024). I would also like to commend Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larson, along with Senate Environmental and Public Works Committee Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Capito, for continuing to foster the spirit of bipartisanship that has been the traditional hallmark of infrastructure legislation and urge a yes vote on the bill.

The Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 authorizes the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Civil Works Program to carry out projects that improve the nation's ports, inland waterways, storm protection, and other water infrastructure. The legislation authorizes critical navigation projects and studies to help meet the demands at our ports and ensures we head off future supply chain challenges. It authorizes the Corps to conduct more than 200 feasibility studies to look into future Corps projects.

Additionally, the conference report reauthorizes the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and several regional economic development commissions to support locally-driven economic growth in regions across the country. WRDA 2024 also redistributes unused funding from the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *TIFIA* program to assist local transportation projects and create jobs in communities across the country.

It is important that federal support for water infrastructure remains a national priority. The projects authorized by WRDA 2024 are essential to America's economic competitiveness and help protect local communities. LIUNA encourages the United States House of Representatives to pass this important infrastructure legislation.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

BRENT BOOKER General President

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