

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Speaker United States House of Representatives Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 Lester C. Snyder, III, President
Thomas L. Brown, Senior Vice President
Todd Roberts, Vice President
Shea De Lutis, Treasurer
Stephen E. Sandherr, Chief Executive Officer
Jeffrey D. Shoaf, Chief Operating Officer

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Minority Leader United States House of Washington, D.C. 20515

AGC KEY VOTE: VOTE "YES" ON H.R. 3935 - THE SECURING GROWTH AND ROBUST LEADERSHIP IN AMERICAN AVIATION ACT

Dear Speaker McCarthy and Minority Leader Jeffries,

On behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) – the leading construction association representing America's top general contractors and specialty-contracting firms in every state – I write in support of *H.R. 3935 – the Securing Growth and Robust Leadership in American Aviation Act*, barring any significant changes from amendments. The bill includes increased funding levels and policies that will make it easier to improve our nation's runways.

The Airport Improvement Program (AIP) provides funding for runway and taxiway construction and rehabilitation, land acquisition, and airfield lighting and signage. The funding levels for AIP that are included in this bill will help support high-paying construction careers while improving the traveling experience for millions of Americans. Likewise, this investment will help reduce congestion on the runway and ensure more on-time flights.

In addition, by allowing price adjustment clauses, this bill will ensure that the firms working to improve the nation's airports – many of which are small, family-owned establishments – will not be put out of business because they have been forced to absorb unexpected cost increases. Numerous unpredictable factors - including pandemics, cargo ships stuck in the Suez Canal, increasing fuel prices due to geopolitical events and war and extreme weather – can cause supply chain disruptions leading to significant construction material cost volatility. Because of the typical, multi-year timeline for letting, procuring and building airport projects, these macro-factors can affect costs well after a contractor's bid submission, when the firm had locked in an overall price and commitment for that project. Price adjustment clauses will ensure that runway projects are not unnecessarily delayed during inflationary times.

As such, AGC urges all representatives to vote "YES" on H.R. 3935 – the Securing Growth and Robust Leadership in American Aviation Act and will KEY VOTE final passage for the education of its 27,000 member companies. Passage of this bill will improve the traveling experience for millions of Americans and support high-paying construction careers. Again, AGC urges all representatives to vote "YES."

Sincerely,

James V. Christianson

Vice President, Government Relations

Cc: Members of the U.S. Representatives