



June 6, 2018

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman
House Transportation & Infrastructure
Committee
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Ranking Member
House Transportation & Infrastructure
Committee
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Shuster and Ranking Member DeFazio:

On behalf of the Geosynthetic Materials Association (GMA), I am writing to thank you for your leadership in working to reauthorize H.R. 8, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2018. We applaud your dedication in ensuring that our nation's water resources infrastructure continues to promote commerce and economic growth while protecting its citizens and the environment.

GMA and its 75+ member companies wholeheartedly support H.R. 8, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2018. The WRDA Act ensures improvements are made to our nation's ports, inland waterways, locks, and dams with an emphasis on flood protection and ecosystem restoration. The bill also promotes the usage of innovative materials in water resources development projects.

GMA is a division of the Industrial Fabrics Association International (IFAI), a trade association comprised of member companies representing the global specialty fabrics and advanced textiles marketplace. GMA's manufacturers and distributors are a critical element of the transportation construction supply chain as geosynthetics provide cost savings and structural integrity in water resources construction and maintenance. Geosynthetics are utilized in a variety of infrastructure applications, including: preventing waterway erosion and water loss in canals and dikes; coastal protection and restoration projects; expanding and deepening our nation's ports; and protecting groundwater and allowing for safe solid waste storage.

Our nation should not miss opportunities to welcome innovation, spur economic growth, and protect its citizens and the environment. We urge the House of Representatives to move forward with the consideration of the Water Resources Development Act of 2018.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Curry', is positioned above the printed name.

Jonathan Curry
GMA, Managing Director
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