

June 12, 2023

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen:

The Portland Cement Association (PCA) applauds the introduction of the bipartisan Securing Growth and Robust Leadership in American Aviation Act, to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for five years. We appreciate the increased investment in aviation infrastructure included in the bill.

Cement is the primary ingredient in concrete is critical to the construction of a range of different aviation infrastructure projects, from runways to airports. For these reasons, we applaud the increased investment in the Airport Improvement Program from \$3.35 billion to \$4 billion annually. The increased annual AIP authorization in this legislation coupled with the expanded eligibility for the program, allows airports the flexibility to address the most pressing airside, landside, and terminal needs at their facilities. While the industry was appreciative of the \$20 billion included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to help jumpstart an overdue investment in our nation's airport infrastructure, this substantial increase in AIP funding allows airports take a meaningful step toward meeting their infrastructure needs of today and the future.

Additionally, we applaud the legislation's emphasis on resiliency for coastal airports. Resilient construction is infrastructure that, in response to a disruptive natural or technology related event, allows infrastructure to resist damage, continue to serve their primary function, and minimize the recovery time. Concrete is the essential building material to resilient infrastructure. It is estimated that for every \$1 invested in pre-disaster mitigation, up to \$8 can be saved in future disaster recovery costs.

Finally, the Portland Cement Association applauds the work of this committee to introduce this legislation in a bipartisan fashion. By working together and reaching across the aisle, we believe this legislation can be authorized prior to the September 30, 2023, deadline.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Sean O'Neill, PCA's Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, at (703) 321-6792 or soneill@cement.org.

Sincerely,



Sean O'Neill
Senior Vice President, Government Affairs
Portland Cement Association