



International Union of Operating Engineers

AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

June 6, 2022

JAMES T. CALLAHAN
GENERAL PRESIDENT

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

The International Union of Operating Engineers commends the bipartisan committee process that led to the development of the Water Resources Development Act of 2022, H.R. 7776, and respectfully encourages all Members of the House of Representatives to support the legislation when it is considered this week.

The International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) is one of North America's leading construction unions, representing 400,000 hardworking men and women in the United States and Canada. Most members of the IUOE work in the construction sector, operating and maintaining heavy equipment; thousands of us are employed building the nation's roads, bridges, highways, and other transportation infrastructure. Members of the IUOE also dredge the nation's ports, harbors, and inland waterways, performing extensive amounts of in-water construction. The IUOE also represents Stationary Engineers – skilled maintenance workers who operate and maintain industrial, energy, commercial, and public facilities across North America.

The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) authorizes sixteen construction projects and dozens of feasibility studies to move the country forward – creating jobs, moving goods, restoring ecosystems, and bolstering the nation's defenses against floods and extreme weather. Nearly 80% of the nation's traded goods rely on American ports, harbors, and inland waterways to reach consumers, and these WRDA investments are vital for their efficient movement. Studies that support freight mobility at American ports, including Coos Bay, OR, guide economic development resources and public and private capital flows. In short, they support regional economies and jobs.

The International Union of Operating Engineers is pleased to support bipartisan WRDA legislation, and we look forward to working with you and other leaders to pass this legislation in the 117th Congress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

James T. Callahan
General President

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cc: The Honorable Peter DeFazio, Chairman, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
The Honorable Sam Graves, Ranking Member, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
The Honorable Grace F. Napolitano, Chairwoman, Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee
The Honorable David Rouzer, Ranking Member, Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee