



**Aric Newhouse**

*Senior Vice President  
Policy and Government Relations*

June 7, 2022

U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to support H.R. 7776, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2022, introduced by House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chair Peter A. DeFazio (D-OR), Ranking Member Sam Graves (R-MO), Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee Chairwoman Grace F. Napolitano (D-CA), and Ranking Member David Rouzer (R-NC).

The nation's deepwater ports and inland waterways help keep transportation costs competitive and are an important means of transport for manufacturers and other industrial shippers. The bipartisan WRDA bill will help manufacturers continue to efficiently move goods by ensuring reliable federal investments in these critical pieces of our nation's supply chain.

Reliable and consistent authorizations for Army Corps civil works projects are required to upgrade and modernize harbors and ports as well as aging inland waterway lock systems, many of which have been around since the Depression's public works expansion era or post-World War II. Without a remedy to address the system's long-term and well-identified deficiencies, U.S. companies will continue to be hamstrung, threatening jobs and growth.

H.R. 7776 upholds the two-year legislative authorization cycle to ensure certainty for manufacturers who rely on the movement of goods through ports and inland waterways. It authorizes Army Corps of Engineers civil works projects, as well as studies to initiate such projects. Additionally, H.R. 7776 builds upon current regulatory improvements within the Army Corps to improve and accelerate project delivery.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Aric Newhouse'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Aric Newhouse