



Aric Newhouse

Senior Vice President
Policy and Government Relations

July 27, 2015

U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators:

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. 22, the Developing a Reliable and Innovative Vision for the Economy (DRIVE) Act.

The NAM supports transportation policies that invest in infrastructure to ensure U.S. manufacturing competitiveness. The need to update and modernize our nation's transportation infrastructure extends far beyond state transportation departments and road builders. Manufacturers need stable and reliable infrastructure to thrive and compete in today's economy. Funding our roads, bridges and transit systems is a national priority; many states do not have the resources or ability to keep up with the demands of aging infrastructure.

Manufacturers support H.R. 22 which would ensure continued investment in highways and transit systems by authorizing federal programs for six years and providing guaranteed funding for three years. The legislation seeks to end a pattern of continued uncertainty and short-term extensions that discourage long-term investments in new bridges, roads and transit systems. In addition to guaranteed three-year funding, the legislation includes important reforms that will further streamline environmental reviews and enhance delivery of key infrastructure projects, better prioritize investments in bridges and interstate corridors and dedicate needed resources to freight projects that will enhance goods movement.

Manufacturers are witness to the erosion of the nation's infrastructure base and our country has been stuck in a decade-long period of decline in overall infrastructure capital spending, according to the NAM study *Catching Up*. Senate passage of H.R. 22 is a necessary step to stem this tide.

The NAM's Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on H.R. 22, including procedural motions, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 114th Congress. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Aric Newhouse'.

Aric Newhouse

Key Manufacturing Vote