

August 23, 2021

TO MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The undersigned members of the Agricultural Transportation Working Group (ATWG) strongly support H.R. 3684, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, and urge its immediate passage and deliverance to President Biden for his signature.

A comprehensive transportation infrastructure bill, while popular, has long been elusive. We urge enactment of this bipartisan compromise bill that has the support of President Biden as it will increase infrastructure spending by \$550 billion over five years.

The farmers, ranchers, food and beverage manufacturers, processors, package suppliers, farm supply dealers and agricultural product marketers that comprise our collective memberships support and sustain millions of American jobs, many in rural communities. Our members are dedicated to providing safe, abundant, affordable and sustainably produced human and animal food, fiber and agricultural products that benefit U.S. and global consumers.

Modernizing America's transportation infrastructure has long been a priority of the ATWG and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act would deliver on this priority by investing an additional \$110 billion in U.S. roads and bridges, \$65 billion for broadband, and \$17.3 billion for ports and inland waterways. In addition, this bipartisan agreement includes a number of provisions designed to boost the resiliency of the agricultural supply chain including investments in cybersecurity and programs to address the truck driver shortage.

These investments are necessary and, in many cases, overdue. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will enhance the efficient and cost-effective transport of agricultural and food products resulting in substantial contributions and opportunities for U.S. economic growth and trade.

Through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Congress and the Administration have the opportunity to boost the competitiveness of American agriculture. We are mindful that this specific legislation is the product of many months of bipartisan, deliberate negotiations. Therefore, we urge lawmakers to exercise caution during its consideration and oppose any amendments that could threaten to unravel this careful consensus. The ATWG urges strong support and quick enactment of this bipartisan agreement.

Sincerely,

Agricultural and Food Transporters Conference  
Agricultural Retailers Association  
American Bakers Association  
American Beekeeping Federation  
American Beverage Association  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Feed Industry Association  
American Frozen Food Institute  
American Pulse Association

American Soybean Association  
Corn Refiners Association  
Farm Credit Council  
Forest Resources Association  
Institute of Shortening and Edible Oils  
International Dairy Foods Association  
Leather and Hide Council of America  
Livestock Marketing Association  
Meat Import Council of America  
National Aquaculture Association  
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Barley Growers Association  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Farmers Union  
National Grain and Feed Association  
National Grange  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Pork Producers Council  
National Sunflower Association  
North American Meat Institute  
North American Renderers Association  
Pet Food Institute  
North American Millers' Association  
Soy Transportation Coalition  
The Fertilizer Institute  
United Dairymen of Arizona  
United Fresh Produce Association  
United States Cattlemen's Association  
USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council  
USA Rice  
U.S. Canola Association  
U.S. Pea and Lentil Trade Association  
Waterways Council, Inc.  
Western Growers

CC: President Joseph R. Biden