

North American Concrete Alliance

June 1, 2021

The Honorable Sam Graves
Ranking Member
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David Rouzer
Ranking Member
Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Ranking Member Graves and Subcommittee Ranking Rouzer:

The North American Concrete Alliance, a coalition of twelve concreate-related trade associations, appreciates the introduction of H.R. 3218, the Wastewater Infrastructure Improvement Act. This legislation will help communities address local wastewater infrastructure needs in communities across the country.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency's 2012 Clean Watersheds Needs Survey as of January 2012, \$271 billion needed to be invested in wastewater and stormwater management projects over a 20-year period. These projects including investing in wastewater pipes and treatment facilities, combined sewer overflow correction, and stormwater management.

As our nation's wastewater infrastructure ages, communities are faced with growing difficulties in paying for critical improvements. Since its authorization in 1987, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF), has played a critical role in helping upgrade this infrastructure. States have combined funding from the Clean Water SRF with state-matching funds, bond proceeds, and loan repayments to provide assistance to local communities, primarily in the form of loans, to help make critical updates to wastewater infrastructure. Reauthorization of the Clean Water SRF is critical helping communities continue to meet the needs to update their wastewater infrastructure.

In addition to reauthorizing the Clean Water SRF, it is critical to help communities improve the resilience of their wastewater infrastructure. The 2019 National Climate Assessment, compiled by 13 federal agencies, highlights that extreme weather events will increasingly disrupt and damage critical infrastructure in communities across the country due to an increase in heavy precipitation, coastal flooding, heat, and wildfire with regional differences. In recognition of this, NACA supports the investments the Wastewater Infrastructure Improvement Act makes in watershed, wet weather, and resiliency projects. Due to its durability, concrete is critical to building wastewater infrastructure that can better withstand an increase in extreme weather events. NACA appreciates the Wastewater Infrastructure Improvement Act's recognition of the role of both gray and green infrastructure to improve the resiliency of wastewater systems.

We appreciate the attention and support for water infrastructure investment that has been shown by members of Congress on both sides of the aisle. We hope the introduction of the Wastewater Infrastructure Improvement Act will help facilitate the passage of bipartisan legislation to make needed investments in wastewater infrastructure in communities across the country. We look forward to working with Congress to pass legislation to make these critical investments.

Sincerely,

American Concrete Pavement Association
American Concrete Pipe Association
American Concrete Pressure Pipe Association
American Concrete Pumping Association
Concrete Foundations Association
Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute

National Concrete Masonry Association
National Precast Concrete Association
National Ready Mixed Concrete Association
Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute
Portland Cement Association
Tilt-Up Concrete Association