

May 27, 2022

The Honorable Peter DeFazio  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves  
2164 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: 2022 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) Legislation**

Dear Chairman DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

On behalf of the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) and its 80 United States member ports, I want to thank you for your leadership and support for Federal maritime infrastructure and the navigation program administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). We appreciate that you recognize the nexus between water resources development and economic prosperity. We write to you today in support of H.R. 7776, the Water Resources Development Act of 2022.

Congress has made great progress to construct and maintain 21<sup>st</sup> century Federal navigation channels to ensure America continues its leadership in global trade. We now need passage of WRDA 2022 to authorize new construction projects and studies, as well as streamline Corps processes to efficiently deliver its products.

America's seaports are the center of our nation's trade and transportation systems. International trade through seaports accounts for over a quarter of the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP), and seaports handle approximately \$6 billion worth of import and export goods daily, generate nearly 31 million jobs, and provide more than \$378 billion annually in federal, state and local tax revenues.

AAPA and our members appreciate your work to continue the trend of WRDA legislation with each session of Congress. If you have any questions regarding this letter please contact Jim Walker, Director of Government Relations, on our staff at [jwalker@aapa-ports.org](mailto:jwalker@aapa-ports.org).

Sincerely,



Christopher J. Connor  
President and CEO