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December 7, 2020

RE: S.1811, WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2020

Dear Member of Congress,

On behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) – the leading association in the construction industry representing more than 27,000 firms, including America’s leading general contractors, specialty-contracting firms, service providers, and suppliers – I urge you to pass S. 1811, the Water Resources Development Act of 2020, this month. The bill would authorize funding for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) civil works projects, including navigation, flood control, and ecosystem restoration projects.

S. 1811 continues the important biennial practice of passing legislation that invests in our nation’s water resources infrastructure. The predictability of the biennial water resources development acts is critical for all stakeholders involved in the planning and execution of water resources projects. Through these investments, the bill will create jobs, improve the quality of life for all Americans, protect our communities, facilitate waterborne commerce, restore environmentally sensitive areas of the country, and help grow our economy.

AGC appreciates that S. 1811 will help ensure that the USACE Civil Works Program is appropriately responsive to the water resources needs identified by local communities. Specifically, the bill will authorize 46 pending Chief’s Reports, authorize 27 new feasibility studies, and expediate the completion of 65 existing feasibility studies. In addition, AGC supports the provisions of S. 1811 that ensure funding from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund go towards their intended uses and modify the cost share of projects funded by the Inland Waterways Trust Fund, among others.

AGC applauds the bipartisan, bicameral process used to develop the bill and urges Congress to pass S. 1811 this month.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'James V. Christianson'.

James V. Christianson
Vice President, Government Relations