

December 4, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Charles Schumer Majority Leader U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leaders Schumer, McConnell, and Jeffries:

On behalf of the over 500 members of the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA), I am writing to express our support for the Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (WRDA 2024).

This legislation will reauthorize much-needed investment in U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) projects that aggregates and industrial sand materials are critical components in. NSSGA represents aggregates producers and those who manufacture equipment and services that support the construction industry. Our members are essential to the work of this country, and we represent more than 90 percent of the crushed stone and 70 percent of the sand and gravel produced annually in the United States. Our members employ more than 100,000 hard-working men and women, who are responsible for the essential raw materials found in every home, building, road, port, dam and public works project.

This legislation will support efforts to improve and invest in all levels of our nation's infrastructure network, including critical navigable waterways essential to America's economic competitiveness and continues the two-year cycle ensuring the timely delivery of water projects across the country. The bipartisan WRDA 2024 will authorize 21 projects for construction and 162 new Corps feasibility studies, allowing for these much-needed improvements to continue moving forward. We also applaud the inclusion of language that will immediately redistribute \$1.8 billion of excess contract authority from the TIFIA program to the states via formula. This critical language will

provide states more autonomy to meet the growing needs of their transportation system and foster economic development by rebuilding, revitalizing and creating infrastructure nationwide.

If enacted and fully funded through the annual appropriations process, WRDA 2024 will focus more on projects and help the Corps cut into the backlog of needed water transportation improvements. We applaud the work of the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on their continued commitment to finding bipartisan solutions to address the needs of America's transportation systems. NSSGA urges all members of the House and Senate to support WRDA 2024 when it is considered on the floor.

Sincerely,

Michele Stanley^r Interim CEO National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association