

September 24, 2021

Dear Representative:

I am a member of the National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA), which represents construction contractors, manufacturers, and distributors who build and maintain a wide range of underground facilities and transportation infrastructure. NUCA member companies provide the manpower and equipment needed to build, repair, and maintain our nation's water and wastewater, gas distribution, broadband, and electric infrastructure, as well as carry out critical work in the nation's surface transportation system. As an industry professional, I know that this infrastructure legislation will in the years ahead be a critical part of America's national economic recovery.

Every state suffers from obsolete or inadequate infrastructure. Overall, our nation has about more than a half-trillion dollars in outstanding project needs just for water and wastewater. As water infrastructure systems continue to age, are tested by extreme weather events, or face mounting costs of complying with environmental and health regulations, including the need to replace lead pipes, communities face increasing difficulties in paying for needed infrastructure improvements. Alarming events over the last several years in multiple U.S. states such as Michigan, Mississippi, and Texas underscore the vulnerability of our nation's water and wastewater infrastructure and the dire need for additional investment. Our nation's surface transportation network is decades old and, in many places in our own state, literally crumbling away from neglected maintenance. And the COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the importance of every American having access to modern high-speed broadband networks at home and at their place of business. My industry sees this decay every day as we work hard to keep this infrastructure functioning, but these critical systems need more federal resources and much more investment.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684) is a long-overdue investment in our nation's infrastructure that will create thousands of new jobs and help ensure millions of Americans have access to clean and healthy drinking water, modern communications, and working transportation infrastructure in our state. While more work remains to be done, this level of investment is a tremendous step in the right direction, and will deliver an unparalleled economic boost to our industry and the American economy. Making this investment in our nation's and our state's future is the best way to ensure the United States remains competitive and healthy for years and decades to come.

As a concerned constituent and an industry professional, I urge you to vote YES on the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,
Member of the National Utility Contractors Association