



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - January 31, 2012

Contact: Bobby Maldonado 202-463-5682  
PERMALINK

## U.S. Chamber Statement on House Transportation Reauthorization Proposal

*'Addressing the Nation's Transportation Challenges Is  
Key to Economic Growth and Output,' Kavinsky Says*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—U.S. Chamber of Commerce Executive Director of Transportation and Infrastructure Janet Kavinsky issued the following statement regarding the House Transportation and Infrastructure transportation reauthorization proposal formally introduced today as part of The American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act:

“We commend Chairman Mica on his approach to surface transportation reauthorization. This proposal encourages private sector investment and is consistent with the Chamber’s priorities, including the consolidation of programs, eliminating mandates, cutting red tape and government bureaucracy, increasing funding flexibility while requiring accountability, and providing more opportunity for leveraging scarce federal resources.

“These reforms can contribute to more effective investments and can increase Americans’ confidence that the federal government is ensuring that their tax dollars are spent wisely and effectively.

“We are pleased that House leadership supported the Chairman’s efforts to avoid major cuts to highway, transit, and safety programs, and look forward to House action to provide the needed resources in support of the obligation limitations laid out in the transportation reauthorization proposal. The overall funding levels will support existing jobs and, combined with reforms and expansion of federal credit programs, could enable job creation in the struggling construction industry. In the long run, investment will result in a more competitive economy and will provide a boost to GDP, which has been dragged down for far too long by underperforming infrastructure.

“In addition, the Chamber encourages inclusion of provisions that would increase investment in the nation’s waterways and ports by ensuring that revenue from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund is used fully for its intended purpose.

“Addressing the nation’s transportation challenges is key to economic growth and output. The United States cannot get back on its feet economically if the surface transportation networks cannot move people and goods efficiently. If we want to double exports and create jobs in the United States, we need to be able to move those exports. Harbor and channel maintenance dredging in waterways and harbors is critical for efficient export routes.

“As the process moves forward, the Chamber pledges to work with the Chairman and the House to advance this legislation in support of job growth and economic productivity.”

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world’s largest business federation representing the interests of more than 3 million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations.

[www.uschamber.com](http://www.uschamber.com)

[@USChamber](https://twitter.com/USChamber)

[www.freeenterprise.com](http://www.freeenterprise.com)

###

