



September 22, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Vice Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Leahy, Vice Chairman Shelby, Chairwoman DeLauro, Ranking Member Granger:

The National Demolition Association (NDA) represents nearly 500 U.S. and Canadian companies that offer standard demolition services as well as a full range of demolition-related services and products. NDA educates members on the latest advances in equipment and services, provides educational programs and tools to stay abreast of regulatory and safety matters and keeps regulators informed about issues in our industry. NDA also increases public awareness of the economic and societal benefits of demolition.

As Congress negotiates the fiscal year (FY) 2023 appropriations bill, NDA would like to reiterate the demolition industry's priorities on key provisions under consideration. In this time of economic uncertainty, the annual appropriations bill provides Congress with the opportunity to support bipartisan initiatives that will help lay the groundwork for a strong economy.

NDA remains committed to policies that sustain economic growth, strengthen the American workforce and further environmental stewardship. To this end, NDA urges Congress to support the demolition industry and small businesses by prioritizing the following programs:

- **Workforce Development:** NDA remains strongly concerned about ongoing labor shortages in the nation's workforce and the negative effects it is having on the demolition industry. NDA supports policies to address the shortage of qualified candidates for high-skilled jobs by improving the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education system and other efforts to increase the pool of qualified candidates for technical jobs on demolition sites. This includes programs to boost and encourage apprenticeships, work-based learning and vocational training.
- **Infrastructure:** Congress should continue to support investments in infrastructure projects, specifically facility rehabilitation, construction and demolition, in schools, hospitals, water/wastewater, electricity, airports, inland waterways, ports and other public facilities.
- **EPA Brownfields Cleanup:** NDA members are committed to working with the federal government to facilitate the appropriate handling of hazardous areas and supports robust funding for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Grant Program.

- **Disaster Recovery:** NDA members are experts in assisting communities in the wake of devastating man-made and natural disasters and recovering in the most effective and efficient manner possible. NDA supports robust disaster recovery funding that helps return displaced residents to their homes and encourages the timely rebuilding of disaster impacted areas.
- **Community Development Block Grants:** NDA strongly supports proposals to provide robust funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.
- **Small Business Relief:** NDA supports programs that help small businesses and entrepreneurs access capital and contracting opportunities through the Small Business Administration.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on these important priorities. For any questions, please contact NDA's Senior Legislative and Regulatory Coordinator Alex McIntyre at amcintyre@demolitionassociation.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Lambert", is positioned above the typed name.

Jeff Lambert
Chief Executive Officer
National Demolition Association (NDA)