



ASSOCIATION OF
EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS

AGRICULTURE
CONSTRUCTION
FORESTRY
MINING
UTILITY

July 23, 2009

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
U.S. House of Representatives
1119 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0531

Dear Representative Becerra:

On behalf of the member companies of the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) and their hundreds of thousands of employees, I am writing to ask that you urge Ways and Means Committee Chairman Rangel to take up the revenue title for a multi-year reauthorization of the surface transportation programs as quickly as possible.

Congressmen Earl Blumenauer and John Larson are circulating among Ways and Means Committee Democratic Members a letter to the Chairman, appealing for quick action on comprehensive funding for transportation infrastructure. AEM respectfully requests that you sign on to this important letter.

SAFETEA-LU will expire in just a few months. If Congress does not take action soon to enact new highway reauthorization legislation, construction could halt on major infrastructure projects. This would have a devastating effect on a reeling economy and cause the loss of even more jobs in the construction and manufacturing industries, already suffering greatly from the 18-month long recession. We simply cannot afford to let this happen.

A strong surface transportation infrastructure program is vital to the U.S. economy and to our national security. Congress must act quickly to identify new sources of revenue for the highway program and to pass a comprehensive, strategic, long-term reauthorization of the surface transportation programs. Chairman Rangel and the Democrats of the Ways and Means Committee have a decisive leadership role to play in this critical undertaking. Please sign on to the Blumenauer-Larson letter, and please let me know how AEM and its member companies can help in the important work of the Committee on this legislation.

Sincerely,


Dennis Slater
President

Attachment

1000 Vermont Avenue, NW
Suite 450
Washington, DC 20005

T 202.898.9064
F 202.898.9068

HEADQUARTERS: MILWAUKEE, WI
OFFICES: WASHINGTON, DC OTTAWA, CANADA BEIJING, CHINA
EUROPEAN RESOURCE: BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



WWW.AEM.ORG
AEM@AEM.ORG
Toll Free: 866.AEM.0442