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January 21, 2021

The Honorable Roger Wicker, Chairman
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, & Transportation
512 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Wicker and Ranking Member Cantwell:

On behalf of the U.S. equipment manufacturing industry and the companies that make up the Association of Equipment Manufacturers, we respectfully urge the swift confirmation of the Honorable Peter P. M. Buttigieg to serve as United States Secretary of Transportation.

Equipment manufacturers are proud to support 2.8 million family-sustaining jobs—one in eight manufacturing jobs in the United States—which contribute \$288 billion to the nation’s GDP and play a critical role in the construction and maintenance of our infrastructure assets.

Mr. Buttigieg understands the challenges and opportunities facing our nation’s infrastructure and will bring much needed energy, determination, and leadership to President Biden’s Cabinet. We endorse the nomination of Mr. Buttigieg because he not only recognizes that we need to invest in our nation’s infrastructure to boost our economic productivity and global competitiveness, but also because he appreciates that such an investment will enhance the quality of life in both rural and urban communities. Mr. Buttigieg has outlined an affirmative vision for transportation infrastructure that prioritizes maintenance of existing assets and supports enhancements grounded in technology, sustainability, and workforce development. With the perspective of a mayor, Mr. Buttigieg understands the important role that state and local governments play in providing and maintaining the nation’s infrastructure and how to seek input and build consensus. We are confident that Mr. Buttigieg will successfully advance the mission of the U.S. Department of Transportation to provide safe, efficient, modern transportation options for all Americans.

Please feel free to call on us to expand upon our rationale for supporting the nomination of Mr. Buttigieg. Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

Dennis Slater
President
Association of Equipment Manufacturers

cc: Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, & Transportation