

114th Congress Scorecard – Vote Descriptions

House

1. **Letter to House Leaders on Long-Term Transportation Bill** – a sign-on letter circulated at the beginning of the year by Representatives Reed, Ribble, Lipinski, and Pascrell, to Speaker Boehner and Minority Leader Pelosi expressing support for action on a multi-year surface transportation bill funded by long-term, sustainable revenue sources. ACEC asked Members of Congress to sign the letter. ([285 signatures](#) –130 Republicans and 155 Democrats).
2. **Bridge to Sustainable Infrastructure Act (H.R. 1846)** – a bill introduced by Congressman Jim Renacci (R-OH) that would index federal gas and diesel taxes for inflation, set up two more automatic increases over the next 10 years to stabilize the Highway Trust Fund, and establish a special congressional panel to develop alternative funding options to substitute for the gas tax. ACEC supports cosponsorship. ([33 cosponsors](#)).
3. **Partnership to Build America Act (H.R. 413)** – a bill introduced by Congressman John Delaney (D-MD) that authorizes a \$50 billion national infrastructure financing entity to provide loans, loan guarantees and other financial products to states and municipalities to leverage funds for transportation, energy, communications, water, and education infrastructure projects. The fund would be capitalized by the one-time repatriation of overseas corporate earnings through the sale of 50-year bonds. ACEC endorsed the bill as an innovative way to inject more funding into domestic infrastructure and facilitate public-private partnerships. ACEC supports cosponsorship. ([41 cosponsors](#)).
4. **Bipartisan letter on municipal bonds** – supports retaining the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds, and opposes proposals to eliminate or cap the tax deduction for interest on municipal bonds. ACEC supports the letter because municipal bonds are an essential infrastructure financing tool. ([124 Members of the House signed the letter](#))
5. **Keystone XL Pipeline Approval Act (S. 1)** – Authorizes TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, L.P. to construct, connect, operate, and maintain the pipeline and cross-border facilities specified in an application filed by TransCanada Corporation to the Department of State on May 4, 2012. Deems the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement regarding the pipeline issued by the Secretary of State in January 2014 to fully satisfy the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and any law that requires federal agency consultation or review, including the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Also included provisions to promote energy efficiency in public and private buildings. ACEC supported passage ([Roll Call #75](#) passed House 270 to 152).

6. **Surface Transportation Reauthorization and Reform Act (House amendments to H.R. 22)** – the House version of a surface transportation bill, authorizing \$340 billion over six years for highway, transit, and safety programs, including \$262 billion for highway programs and \$68 billion for transit. The bill also included ACEC-backed project delivery reforms, and a provision recognizing the value of private sector engineering and design services and encouraging state DOTs to contract out to engineering firms “to strengthen project performance, improve domestic competitiveness, and create jobs.” ACEC supported passage. ([Roll Call #623](#); passed 363-64).
7. **FAST Act (H.R. 22)** – The final conference report reauthorizing federal surface transportation programs for five years. The FAST Act authorizes a total of \$305 billion through Fiscal Year 2020, including \$225 billion for highways, \$61 billion for transit, and \$10 billion for passenger rail programs. The bill retains the amendment approved by the House encouraging State DOTs to utilize private sector engineering and design services for enhanced project delivery. It also features several project delivery streamlining reforms, as well as funding for state pilot programs to study mileage-based user fees and other alternative revenue mechanisms. ACEC supported passage. ([Roll Call #673](#); passed 359-65).
8. **Providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 597) to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and for other purposes. (H. Res. 450)** – allowed the Export-Import Bank to be reauthorized. ACEC member firms benefit from the reauthorization, and ACEC supported the motion. ([Record vote #573](#); approved 275-154).
9. **North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act (HR 8)** – calls for the modernization of transmission, distribution, and storage of energy, including preparing the grid to survive natural disasters and man-made attacks. The bills would also streamline government approval processes for energy exports and includes provisions to expedite the construction of natural gas pipelines and maintain transmission right of ways on public lands. Passed the House by a vote of 249-174 ([Roll Call #672](#)). ACEC supported passage of the bill.
10. **Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act (HR 2029)** – makes permanent the R&D tax credit, higher Section 179 expensing levels, parity for transit benefits; extends bonus depreciation and renewable energy tax credits for five years; and extends other provisions for two years. ACEC member firms benefit from these tax provisions, and ACEC supports passage ([Roll Call #703](#) passed the House 318 to 109).
11. **Passage of the FY’16 Omnibus Appropriations Bill** -- the legislation funds federal agencies through the 2016 fiscal year, and included the ACEC-backed tax extender package that made permanent the R&D tax credit and extended numerous other tax provisions used by engineering firms. Passed the House by a vote of 316 to 113 ([Roll Call #705](#)). ACEC supported passage of the bill.