



January 31, 2008

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) – the business association of the nation’s engineering industry – I urge you to support and co-sponsor the bipartisan amendment offered by Senators Wyden, Thune, Dodd and Shelby to enhance the economic stimulus package by adding \$5 billion in transportation infrastructure investment.

This investment will create well-paying jobs – every \$1 billion worth of federal transportation investment creates 47,500 jobs – and boost the economy very quickly. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has identified over 2700 transportation projects that can be contracted within 90 days.

This amendment will also correct a critical near term shortfall in the Highway Trust Fund that could result in crippling cuts to state transportation programs in 2009.

Of course, the benefits of this investment will be felt over the long term as well, as the resulting infrastructure improvements will help to sustain economic growth for years to come.

ACEC represents over 5,700 independent engineering companies dedicated to the development and enhancement of America’s infrastructure. They see the need for greater investment every day, working closely with federal, state and local officials and agencies to design solutions to the nation’s pressing transportation challenges.

The Wyden-Thune-Dodd-Shelby Amendment will take us one step closer to addressing those needs, enhancing the economy and quality of life of every American. Thank you for your support for this important initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David A. Raymond". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

David A. Raymond
President & CEO