



ASSOCIATION OF  
EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS



September 23, 2010

Dear (Candidate for Governor):

As leaders of the nation's construction equipment sector, we want to state the facts on the critical needs and job creation benefits of infrastructure investment and respectfully encourage your support for significantly increasing investment in roads, bridges, airports, sewers, and drinking water systems.

The heavy construction equipment industry is a major contributor to the U.S. economy and substantially impacts the economy of every state and congressional district. In 2008, equipment manufacturers, distributors, and independent maintenance providers had a \$364.9 billion impact on the U.S. economy, supported more than 2 million American jobs, and paid \$111.3 billion in wages, salaries, and benefits. Research shows that investment in our nation's highways, bridges, water, and transit infrastructure creates about 18,000 jobs for every \$1 billion spent, providing an indispensable resource for the U.S. economy and making fundamental contributions to the country's long-term productivity.

Because spending on highways and other government infrastructure programs have an enormous impact on the equipment industry, our members are keenly aware of the crisis our nation faces. Traffic congestion costs the U.S. economy \$87 billion in wasted time and fuel, and half of all traffic deaths are attributable in part to poor road conditions. Despite these stark facts, Congress has allowed SAFETEA-LU (the most recent federal highway authorization law) to expire and enacted a series of short-term extensions with inadequate funding. Additionally, although the Environmental Protection Agency estimates our wastewater needs to be \$298.1 billion and our drinking water needs to be \$334.8 billion, federal authorization for water infrastructure has lapsed

Attached for your information is a fact sheet on the construction equipment sector in your state. An electronic version and additional information can be found on <http://www.startusupusa.com/impact.cfm>.

We urge you to work with your state's legislature and congressional delegation to make infrastructure investment in your state and this country a priority.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Slater  
President  
Association of Equipment Manufactures

J. Toby Mack  
President and CEO  
Associated Equipment Distributors

Attachment