



July 13, 2023

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chairwoman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
154 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
Vice Chairwoman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
House Committee on Appropriations
2308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
2413 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations Bills

Dear Chairwoman Murray, Vice Chairwoman Collins, Chairwoman Granger, Ranking Member DeLauro:

The National Demolition Association (NDA) represents nearly 500 U.S. and Canadian companies that offer standard demolition services as well as a full range of demolition-related services and products. NDA educates members on the latest advances in equipment and services, provides educational programs and tools to stay abreast of regulatory and safety matters and keeps regulators informed about issues in our industry. NDA also increases public awareness of the economic and societal benefits of demolition.

As Congress considers appropriations bills for fiscal year (FY) 2024, NDA would like to highlight the demolition industry's priorities on key provisions under consideration. In this time of economic uncertainty, the annual appropriations bill provides Congress with the opportunity to support bipartisan initiatives that will help lay the groundwork for a strong economy. The appropriations process is particularly important in a divided Congress where consensus is often hard to achieve on other proposed legislation.

NDA remains committed to policies that sustain economic growth, strengthen the American workforce and further environmental stewardship. To this end, NDA urges Congress to support the demolition industry and America's small businesses by prioritizing the following programs:

- **Workforce Development:** NDA remains deeply concerned about ongoing labor shortages in the nation's workforce and the negative effects it is having on the demolition industry. NDA supports policies to address the shortage of qualified candidates for high-skilled jobs by improving the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education system and other efforts to increase the pool of qualified candidates for technical jobs on demolition sites. This includes programs to boost and encourage apprenticeships, work-based learning, and vocational training. NDA calls on Congress to maintain its strong support for workforce development initiatives from FY 2023 and look to further boost these programs for next year.
- **Infrastructure:** NDA urges Congress to continue its support for investments in infrastructure projects, specifically facility rehabilitation, construction and demolition, in schools, hospitals, water/ wastewater, electricity, airports, inland waterways, ports and other

public facilities. Congress should continue to fully fund the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and build on reforms in the 2023 debt ceiling agreement by improving the federal review process for infrastructure projects. Permitting reform will help ensure a more streamlined and expedited implementation process of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to the benefit of the American public.

- **EPA Brownfields Program:** NDA members are committed to working with the federal government to facilitate the appropriate handling of hazardous areas and urges Congress to support robust funding for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Program.
- **Disaster Recovery:** NDA members are experts in assisting communities in the wake of devastating man-made and natural disasters and recovering in the most effective and efficient manner possible. NDA supports robust disaster recovery funding that helps return displaced residents to their homes and encourages the timely rebuilding of disaster impacted areas.
- **Community Development Block Grants:** NDA urges Congress to support robust funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program which plays a critical role in helping to build stronger and more resilient communities.
- **Small Business Relief:** NDA supports programs that help small businesses and entrepreneurs access capital and contracting opportunities through the Small Business Administration.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on these important priorities. For any questions, please contact NDA's Director of Government Affairs Alex McIntyre at amcintyre@demolitionassociation.com.

Sincerely,



Jeff Lambert
Chief Executive Officer
National Demolition Association (NDA)