

The logo for the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) features the acronym "ACEC" in a large, bold, serif font. Above the letters is a thin, curved yellow line. Below the acronym, the full name "AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES" is written in a smaller, all-caps, sans-serif font.

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

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NEWS RELEASE

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ACEC Endorses Policy Reforms in Transportation Bill; Work Still Needed To Address Highway Trust Fund Solvency

WASHINGTON, DC – The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)—the business association of the nation’s engineering industry—today praised the two-year federal surface transportation authorization bill (H.R. 4348) negotiated by House and Senate conferees as a much-needed boost to the economy.

ACEC President and CEO David A. Raymond said: “The consolidation of numerous federal programs and the major reforms to project delivery requirements will allow America’s engineering firms to bring projects to the public faster and at substantial savings to taxpayers.”

ACEC applauded lawmakers for sustaining investment levels for the next two fiscal years. The conference report includes \$105.2 billion in funding authorizations for highway, transit and safety programs through September 2014.

“Transportation agencies across the country—and their private sector partners—will now have the added funding certainty needed to plan, design and construct desperately needed improvement projects,” he said.

Raymond, however, noted a major shortcoming of the legislation in its failure to address the long-term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund for financing the nation’s surface transportation programs.

“As gas tax receipts and other transportation revenues continue to decline, it is imperative that lawmakers on both sides of the aisle and the White House get serious about a sustainable long-term funding source,” he said. “Congress still must find a way to address the enormous funding gap between what is available and what is necessary to support a world-class transportation system for a 21st century economy.”

The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) is the business association of America’s engineering industry. Council members numbering more than 5,000 firms and representing more than 500,000 employees throughout the nation are engaged in the development of America’s transportation, water and energy infrastructure, as well as environmental, industrial and other public and private facilities. Founded in 1909 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., ACEC is a national federation of 51 state and regional organizations.