ACEC ENDORSES

THE AMERICAN ENERGY & INFRASTRUCTURE JOBS ACT
As “Single Most Important Jobs Bill To Emerge From Congress”

WASHINGTON, DC – ACEC joined with key industry organizations today in endorsing the American Energy & Infrastructure Jobs Act at a Capitol Hill press conference. ACEC President & CEO David A. Raymond called the bill “probably the single most important jobs initiative to emerge from this Congress,” and urged quick action by the House of Representatives.

“By improving the nation’s surface transportation program and combining it with an expanded effort to make greater use of the nation’s domestic energy resources, this legislation will provide a critical boost to the economy at a time when we need it most,” said Raymond.

As outlined by House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Chairman John Mica (R-FL), the bill authorizes $260 billion over five years for federal surface transportation programs; gives states greater flexibility in the use of federal funds by consolidating and eliminating nearly 70 set-aside programs; puts into place needed project delivery reforms to maintain environmental protections while allowing good projects to move forward; and significantly expands the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) to leverage greater private sector investment in major transportation projects.

“This legislation provides state DOTs with five years of funding certainty to plan and execute major transportation improvement programs,” added Raymond. “It institutes needed programmatic reforms to make those dollars go farther, and introduces a new funding source to help restore solvency to the Highway Trust Fund.

“With companion legislation moving in the Senate, Congress has a historic opportunity to put America’s engineering companies, construction contractors, and workers back to work rebuilding and enhancing the nation’s transportation system,” said Raymond.

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.