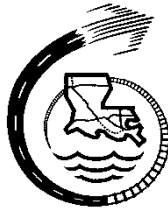


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Louisiana Good Roads and Transportation Association

Sept. 19, 2011
For immediate release

Press Release

La. “Good Roads” applauds transportation bill extension

The leader of Louisiana transportation advocacy group on Monday applauded the extension of the federal transportation bill and called on the state’s delegation to support a new funding bill that will keep Louisiana transportation workers on the job.

The White House on Friday announced that President Obama had signed the Surface and Air Transportation Programs Extension Act of 2011,” which extends funding for the Federal Aviation Administration through January and highway funding through March.

“The next step is to pass a new bill that will assure continued federal funding for our transportation infrastructure and good-paying jobs in the transportation and construction industries,” said Ken Perret, president of the Louisiana Good Roads and Transportation Association.

On Sept. 8, Good Roads led a broad coalition of private-sector engineers, contractors, surveyors, suppliers and other transportation professionals in Louisiana in urging the state’s Congressional delegation to fund a new bill or, at least, to extend the current bill to keep thousands of Louisiana jobs from disappearing.

The House passed the extension measure by voice vote on Sept. 13, and the Senate approved it on Thursday. Senators Mary Landrieu and David Vitter voted for the extension.

Perret said a new bill with multi-year funding is important to Louisiana because infrastructure projects take several years to plan, design and build.

“One of the best things we can do to create more jobs in Louisiana is to invest in our infrastructure,” Perret said. “It provides immediate jobs for a variety of transportation workers, and it is one of the best economic development investments government can make.”

(more)

The coalition sent a letter on Sept. 8 to Louisiana's U.S. senators and representatives, asking them to support a new highway bill or to extend the current bill, which was set to expire on Sept. 30. The coalition is comprised of members from the Louisiana Good Roads and Transportation Association, Louisiana Associated General Contractors, American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana, Louisiana Engineering Society, Louisiana Asphalt Pavement Association, Louisiana Section of American Society of Civil Engineers, Concrete & Aggregates Association of Louisiana and Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors.

Louisiana Good Roads and Transportation Association is a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to fostering and promoting a program of planning, design, construction and maintenance of an adequate transportation system, sufficiently financed, which will conveniently and safely serve the transportation needs of the people of Louisiana.