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## NATIONAL STEEL BRIDGE ALLIANCE

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A Division of the American Institute of Steel Construction

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March 1, 2013

The Honorable Nick Rahall  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
2163 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Rahall,

I am writing to express the strong support of the National Steel Bridge Alliance for the Invest in American Jobs Act which will strengthen America's manufacturing base and help ensure that federally funded investments support the creation of jobs in the United States.

The Buy America law was created with the simple premise that federal funds invested in infrastructure projects should be used to buy steel milled and fabricated by the American workers and companies whose taxes are paying for the projects. In the bridge industry, we value the important work done by the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee last year by passing MAP-21 which closed one of the more egregious Buy America loopholes, segmentation, and we strongly support your efforts to continue that work. This new legislation further updates and strengthens Buy America by closing other loopholes and rationalizing its application across transportation modes. As America looks to rebuild its aging infrastructure, including many notable bridges like the Tappan Zee Bridge in New York, our steel mills and steel fabricators have the capacity, the experience and the workers to take on this challenge. It makes no sense to invest U.S. taxpayer dollars to subsidize the bridge building capacity overseas to help them compete with our industry and our workers at home.

Our members strongly support the work you are doing and your leadership on this issue. We look forward to working with you to enact this bill into law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger Ferch". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Roger Ferch  
Executive Director