

STEEL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

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The Honorable Nick J. Rahall II
Ranking Member
House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
2307 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

March 1, 2013

Dear Ranking Member Rahall:

On behalf of the Steel Manufacturers Association (“SMA¹”) and its 32 U.S. member companies, we write to express our appreciation for your leadership in introducing the *Invest in American Jobs Act of 2013*.

A healthy infrastructure is vital to the functioning of our nation’s economy. Sufficient, long-term investment has the ability both to provide an immediate boost to employment levels, and to make the U.S. more competitive in the decades ahead. With sustained high unemployment levels and limited resources available, policymakers should prioritize spending on highways, roads, bridges, and other components of our infrastructure in order to maximize the return on investment, in terms of job creation and economic growth.

It is with this potential for job creation and economic growth in mind that we commend your commitment to domestic material preferences in transportation and infrastructure projects. Ensuring that all of the steel, iron, and manufactured goods used in these taxpayer-funded projects are produced in the United States will maximize American jobs in the steel industry, as well as throughout the entire steelmaking supply chain. Strong Buy America provisions are beneficial for America, and are good for SMA member companies and their employees.

Again, we thank you for your leadership. The *Invest in American Jobs Act* comes at a critical time for our nation’s economy. As suppliers of high quality, durable steel products made almost entirely of recycled materials, SMA’s members have an active role to play in the building of our nation’s infrastructure. We look forward to working with you on this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Danjczek

CC: SMA Executive Committee

¹ SMA is the primary trade association for scrap-based electric arc furnace steel producers. SMA’s member companies account for approximately 75% of US steelmaking capacity.