

Alliance of the Ports of Canada, the Caribbean, Latin America and the United States



June 12, 2017

The Honorable Peter DeFazio Ranking Member House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure 2164 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lou Barletta U.S. House of Representatives 2049 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member DeFazio and Congressman Barletta:

Thank you for your leadership in introducing H.R. 1664, the Investing in America: A Penny for Progress Act. The American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) supports this bipartisan legislation and looks forward to working with you on the long overdue investments in America's infrastructure.

This legislation would provide much needed surface transportation investments that would help grow the U.S. economy and build out the nation's multimodal freight network. AAPA greatly appreciates that the additional funding would also support the new freight funding programs created in the FAST Act.

The importance of this bill is emphasized in AAPA's recently released industry overview highlighting \$66 billion in needed federal investments over the next ten years for both landside and waterside port infrastructure. Additionally, as Congress and the Administration move forward on a larger infrastructure package, AAPA would like to continue to work with you on adjusting or lifting the multimodal cap on the FAST Act freight programs. As you are aware, the FAST Act provides \$11 billion in freight funding, however, just \$1.13 billion is eligible for multimodal projects.

Making the investments called for in the Investing in America: A Penny for Progress Act, and making the adjustments to allow greater eligibility for multimodal projects would help ensure that America's transportation infrastructure will meet the demands and challenges of the 21st century.

Thank you again for your leadership. Please feel free to include AAPA on any outreach efforts for this legislation. We look forward to continuing to work with you on the funding and policy needs for landside and waterside infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Kurt J. Nagle President and CEO

cc: The Honorable Bill Shuster, Chairman, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure The Honorable Paul Ryan, Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives The Honorable Kevin Brady, Chairman, House Committee on Ways and Means The Honorable Richard Neal, Ranking Member, House Committee on Ways and Means