

June 9, 2020

MEMBERS OF THE U.S. SENATE:

On behalf of U.S. manufacturers and their workers nationwide, our organizations are reaching out to urge you to support two key legislative initiatives:

- 1) **The Great American Outdoors Act** (S. 3422), championed by Sens. Cory Gardner (R-Colo.), Steve Daines (R-Mont.) and Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.), which would permanently fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) while providing billions to address the backlog of deferred maintenance on the nation's public lands; and,
- 2) **Bipartisan Buy America Amendment to S. 3422** sponsored by Sens. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), Mike Braun (R-Ind.) and, Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), which would apply Buy America requirements to construction materials used in the newly created deferred maintenance fund for national parks and public lands.

Despite widespread unemployment, the Great American Outdoors Act does not currently include Buy America requirements, which support American jobs. We ask you to support the Baldwin Amendment to ensure that taxpayer funds help American companies re-hire American workers.

S. 3422 would address long overdue infrastructure challenges and address the maintenance backlog in national parks and public lands [National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service]. The Congressional Research Service (CRS) calculates that these four agencies had a combined deferred maintenance backlog totaling more than \$19 billion. This includes much-needed improvements and repairs to roads, trails, recreation sites, bridges, buildings, and water systems.

These projects have the potential to put many thousands of Americans back to work with American made equipment, components, and products, as the American economy recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic. Buy America preferences, as outlined in this amendment, ensure taxpayer money is reinvested right back into local communities and U.S. manufacturers, supporting good-paying jobs and the economy, rather than being sent overseas to the lowest bidder. With tens of millions of unemployed people, U.S. manufacturing is key to jump starting the economy.

We urge passage of the bipartisan Great American Outdoors Act **with the Buy America amendment** being offered by Senators Baldwin, Braun and Brown. Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation and amendment.

Sincerely,

Alliance for American Manufacturing
American Federation of Labor and
Congress of Industrial Organizations
American Foundry Society
American Institute of Steel Construction
American Iron and Steel Institute
Committee on Pipe & Tube Imports

Municipal Castings Association
Non-Ferrous Founders' Society
Specialty Steel Industry of North America
Steel Founders' Society of America
Steel Manufacturers Association
United Steelworkers

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