



## **Support a Strong Buildings Component in Infrastructure Legislation**

One of the most effective ways to sustain strong economic growth is through making needed investments in buildings, roads, bridges and other infrastructure. The roofing industry urges Congress to work on a bipartisan basis to approve legislation that provides for improvements to our aging and over-burdened building infrastructure in a fiscally responsible manner.

Buildings should be given broad consideration in funding and parity in incentives for any comprehensive infrastructure package considered by Congress in 2021. Infrastructure legislation should recognize the role of the built environment, which includes elements that are critical to our communities such as schools, airports, hospitals and other buildings. It should further recognize the role of roof design and installation in terms of building functionality, energy efficiency, resiliency and sustainability. To deliver maximum value to building owners and taxpayers, infrastructure investments should meet modern building codes and standards, and project eligibility should be evaluated on a life-cycle cost-effectiveness analysis. Public building projects should emphasize quality assurance by encouraging the use of professional designers and contractors, and buildings should be covered by long-term maintenance plans to maximize the life of the asset and value to taxpayers.

The roofing industry supports the **Energy Efficient Qualified Improvement Property (E-QUIP) Act**, bipartisan legislation led by Congressman Brad Schneider (Ill.-10) and Congressman Tom Rice (S.C.-07), which could be considered as a component of infrastructure legislation in 2021. The bill would provide for a 10-year straight-line depreciation for energy-efficient qualified improvement property, including high-performance nonresidential roof systems. By providing an alternative to the tax code's complicated patchwork of rules for depreciation of building components, including the outdated 39-year depreciation schedule for nonresidential roof systems, the E-QUIP Act would facilitate retrofits of aging and obsolete commercial and multifamily buildings. Increased investment in state-of-the-art building upgrades will save billions of dollars on energy bills and create tens of thousands of jobs across the U.S., according to economic analysis by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy.

The E-QUIP Act is smart economic, energy, infrastructure, environmental and jobs policy. The roofing industry requests members of Congress co-sponsor and urge its inclusion in any infrastructure legislation considered by Congress in 2021.

Finally, it is crucial any infrastructure legislation include provisions to enhance workforce skills and STEM education training to provide employers with the workforce necessary to make infrastructure investments a reality. Given the chronic workforce shortages that plague the roofing and construction industries, closing the employee skills gap will be critical to successfully implementing infrastructure legislation.

**Request: Co-sponsor the bipartisan E-QUIP Act and urge its inclusion as part of a strong buildings component of any infrastructure legislation in 2021.**

**Questions? Contact NRCA's Washington, D.C., office at (202) 546-7584 or (800) 338-5765.**



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