



AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION

Your Comprehensive
Public Works Resource

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November 24, 2009

The Honorable Joseph Lieberman
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs

The Honorable Susan Collins
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Lieberman and Collins:

On behalf of the more than 29,000 members of the American Public Works Association (APWA), I am writing to express our support for the *Strengthening and Updating Resources and Equipment Act (S. 2793)*.

This legislation will ensure that the use of homeland security grants remains as flexible as possible. State and local governments are committed to investing the resources needed to ensure the highest levels of preparedness. S. 2793 will help to strengthen emergency preparedness at a time of severe budgetary shortfalls. As first responders, public works personnel rely on various types of emergency equipment to effectively execute preparedness, response and recovery operations. Guaranteeing that homeland security grant use remains flexible is key to ensuring that public works personnel are able to effectively safeguard our nation's communities when disaster strikes.

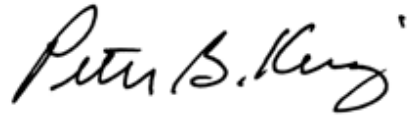
APWA's members plan, design, build, operate, manage, administer and maintain the water supply, sewage and refuse disposal systems, public buildings, transportation infrastructure and other structures and facilities essential to our nation's economy and way of life.

We look forward to working with you in moving this legislation forward. If you or your staff has any questions, please contact Laura Berkey, Government Affairs Manager, in APWA's Washington, D.C. Office at (202) 218-6734 or lberkey@apwa.net.

PRESIDENT
Larry T. Koehle, P.Eng., MPA
Brampton, Ontario

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Peter B. King

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter B. King". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small apostrophe at the end of the last name.

Peter B. King
APWA Executive Director

cc: APWA Board of Directors
APWA Emergency Management Committee