

July 31, 2024

U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of Associated Builders and Contractors, a national construction industry trade association with 67 chapters representing more than 23,000 members, I write today in support of the cloture motion on the motion to proceed with consideration of <u>H.R.7024</u>, the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act.

ABC supports the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act, which extends vital tax provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, including the deduction for research and development and the extension of the 100% bonus depreciation. These provisions are essential to providing additional tax certainty to the construction industry.

The tax code's robust historical preference for research and development benefits the construction industry both directly and indirectly. It supports contractors as they embrace new tools, technologies and materials that continue to improve the efficiency, safety and sustainability of the construction process. It also drives new construction, as innovative technologies spur investments in everything from advanced manufacturing facilities and energy generation to storage and more efficient buildings. The Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act extends these provisions and supports the adoption of cutting-edge practices that help contractors in the construction industry attain the highest standards of performance. At the same time, it maintains provisions that allow for immediate R&D expensing, which provides for lower tax bills, less paperwork and easier compliance for contractors.

In addition, the legislation extends the 100% bonus depreciation that allows construction businesses to expense or write off the purchase of tools, equipment and machinery during the year of purchase. In a fraught time for the U.S. economy, preserving this beneficial tax policy is essential to guaranteeing the success of key construction projects funded by bipartisan congressional legislation, including the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the CHIPS and Science Act.

Further, the bill offers critical relief for more small businesses through the increase in expensing under section 179. This section increases the maximum amount a taxpayer may expense from \$1 million to \$1.29 million for property placed in service starting in 2024. This increase in expensing allows for improved cash flow, increased investment and a further reduction in the tax disparity between small and large businesses in the United States.

ABC appreciates this bipartisan, bicameral effort to recognize the significant challenges facing our economy and the construction industry. ABC and a <u>coalition</u> of hundreds of thousands of businesses who collectively employ millions of Americans in all sectors of the U.S. economy urge you to advance and pass H.R.7024, the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act.

Sincerely,

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Kristen Swearingen Vice President, Legislative & Political Affairs