

Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act

Background

On Nov. 5 the U.S. House approved H.R. 3684, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act by a vote of 228-206. The bill was previously approved by the Senate on Aug. 10 by a vote of 69-30. The bill now heads to the president's desk to be signed into law.

The legislation reflects months of bipartisan negotiations between Congress, the White House and stakeholders. The bill was supported by Farm Bureau and the overall agriculture and business communities.

Farm Bureau supports the legislation because it contains many policy priorities. Additionally, it avoids so-called "pay-fors" that would have been detrimental to our members, for example, changes to step-up in basis, capital gains rates, estate taxes, and corporate taxes.

Importantly, the bill also does not include social and climate spending items that are part of President Biden's Build Back Better proposal – like the expanded child tax credit, paid leave, Medicare expansion, and changes to the state and local tax credit. The Build Back Better negotiations remain ongoing and separate from this legislation.

To clarify what is included within the final infrastructure legislation, please see the additional background provided below.

Farm Bureau Engagement

Farm Bureau worked with the Senate to ensure our farms were protected from harmful tax hikes in this infrastructure spending bill, including increases to the capital gains tax, the elimination of stepped-up basis, changes to the estate tax, Section 199-A expensing, and elimination or alterations to 1031 like-kind exchanges.

Michigan farmers and supporters sent more than 10,300 messages to both Congress and USDA Secretary Vilsack this year in opposition to harmful tax proposals.

Expanding broadband access and upgrading the rural roads, bridges, rails and waterways farmers and their communities depend on have been top priorities for Farm Bureau members for more than a decade. To that end, the bill includes:

- \$110 billion – Roads, bridges, & major projects
- \$66 billion – Passenger and freight rail
- \$11 billion – Safety
- \$39.2 billion – Public Transit
- \$65 billion – Broadband
- \$17.3 billion – Ports and Waterways
- \$25 billion – Airports
- \$55 billion – Water Infrastructure
- \$73 billion – Power and Grid
- \$46 billion – Resiliency
- \$7.5 billion – Low-Carbon and Zero-Emission School Buses & Ferries
- \$7.5 billion – EV and Low-Carbon School Buses & Ferries
- Exemption for livestock and insect haulers from Hours-of-Service regulations within a 150 air-mile radius from their destination.