



January 7, 2020

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA), welcome to the second session of the 116th Congress. Our organization looks forward to working with you on creating constructive and necessary solutions that will not only benefit the electrical construction industry but help create jobs and grow our nation's economy.

NECA is the voice of the \$171 billion electrical construction industry that brings power, light and communication technology to buildings and communities across the U.S. Our national office and 118 local chapters advance the industry through advocacy, education, research and standards development. A diverse group of nearly 4,000-member companies account for approximately 300 million man-hours per year.

As Congress enters a new legislative session, NECA urges you to address the following issues that are critical to the continuing recovery of the construction industry during this very important second session of the 116th Congress:

- Multi-Employer Pension Reform-Authorize Innovative Composite Plans— Congress should allow for the use of innovative plan designs, like composite plans, a voluntary and flexible pension plan option that would provide a reliable retirement income to employees while ensuring that sponsoring employers are not exposed to uncontrollable financial risks.
- Invest in Our Nation's Infrastructure — A robust investment in our nation's infrastructure is essential to keeping electrical contractors in business, their employees working, rebuilding our nation, and ensuring a sound economy. Congress should work on a major infrastructure initiative that accomplishes the following goals:
 - Finding a Sustainable Solution to Fix the Highway Trust Fund
 - Expand Investment in Federal Facilities
 - Funding the Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund Programs
 - Supporting Long-Term Investment in Waterways Infrastructure
 - Building and Upgrading Transmission Line Infrastructure
 - Upgrading and Modernizing Pipeline Infrastructure
- Refine Federal Tax Policy—In order to stay competitive NECA contractors would like to see Congress do the following:
 - Make the Pass-Through Deduction Permanent to Ensure Certainty and Predictability
 - Repeal the Estate Tax
 - Repeal the Alternative Minimum Tax

- Make Remaining Tax Extenders Permanent
- Enact Responsible Contracting Reform Legislation -- Small businesses are the foundation of our economy. In fact, the typical electrical contracting firm size is classified as a small business, with 80 percent having less than ten employees. NECA supports legislation that would help increase opportunities for small businesses, prevent government waste and fraud, and provide a framework for growth in the construction industry. Measures ensuring payment for change orders, prohibiting the use of reverse auctions for construction service, and lowering federal retainage rates are all commonsense solutions that should enjoy strong bipartisan support.

NECA encourages Congress to focus on policies aimed at advancing our economy, creating new jobs, and strengthening our nation's competitiveness. We appreciate the opportunity to provide our expertise and ideas to help achieve these common goals and look forward to continuing to work with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marco A. Giamberardino". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "A".

Marco A. Giamberardino, MPA
Vice President, Government and Public Affairs