September 30, 2015

The Honorable John Boehner
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Vote “YES” on S. 2082, Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act

Dear Speaker Boehner:

On behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), I urge you to vote “YES” on the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Expiring Authorities Act of 2015, S. 2082. Passage of this bill will help improve essential veteran health and benefit services as well as delivery of the medical facilities that the nation’s veterans deserve.

It is no secret that the VA has faced substantial internal challenges that have led to many medical facility construction projects exceeding cost estimates and facing significant delays. To help address this issue, Title V of S. 2082 will allow the VA to more readily focus on its core mission: delivering health care to the nation’s veterans. These provisions will allow the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—or other federal construction agency—to execute VA construction projects that cost more than $100 million. This reform will provide time for the VA to improve its own construction program, while also improving the timely and efficient delivery of VA medical facility construction projects.

Again, AGC urges you to vote “YES” on S. 2082 to help ensure that America’s veterans not only continue to receive critical health and benefit services, but also have quicker access to VA medical facilities through construction program reform.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Shoaf
Senior Executive Director, Government Affairs