



West Virginia Manufacturers Association

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November 19, 2025

United States House of Representatives
Committee on Natural Resources
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Members of the House Committee on Natural Resources,

On behalf of West Virginia Manufacturers Association (WVMA), I respectfully urge you to vote “yes” on the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development Act, or SPEED Act, when it is brought before this Committee for markup. The WVMA applauds the bipartisan efforts in this legislation to advance critical permitting reforms so manufacturers can build in America and compete across the globe.

The WVMA’s membership consists of manufacturers of all sizes that are critical to the state’s economic base. Members of the WVMA represent the quality and diversity of products made in West Virginia. From chemical and automotive manufacturers to distillers and furniture makers, our membership represents several manufacturing sectors. The WVMA has long called for commonsense, bipartisan permitting reforms to improve how we make and build things here in America. We need clarity and guardrails to invest and grow in America, all while maintaining public input and safeguarding our environment.

The SPEED Act provides this clarity by aligning statute with Supreme Court precedent, providing permitting certainty between administrations, codifying much-needed reforms to the judicial review process, and clarifying that NEPA is a procedural statute whose intent can be satisfied by other federal environmental permitting statutes. These reforms will make it easier and more cost-efficient for our WVMA members to get shovels in the ground on job-creating projects—and, as a result, this bill will strengthen manufacturing in America.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bill Bissett, Ed.D.
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