

May 21, 2025

American Cement Association 200 Massachusetts Ave NW, Suite 200 Washington D.C., 20001 202.408.9494 www.cement.org

The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker of the House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20150

Dear Speaker Johnson:

On behalf of the American Cement Association (ACA), I am writing to express our position on the *One, Big, Beautiful Bill* (OBBB) currently before the House of Representatives. ACA supports this bill as a first step towards improving the tax code, encouraging economic growth, and fostering job creation for domestic manufacturers.

The American Cement Association - formerly the Portland Cement Association - is the leading voice for America's cement manufacturers. Founded in 1909, our association adopted its new name in May 2025 to reflect the industry's evolution beyond Portland cement. Today, our members are pioneering the production of innovative cements and emissions-reduction technologies to expand domestic manufacturing capacity.

Cement is essential to building and maintaining the nation's infrastructure – from highways and bridges to airports, mass transit systems, and water facilities. Our products enhance energy efficiency in buildings, improve fuel efficiency on roads, and contribute to the resilience of critical infrastructure. Cement and concrete manufacturing supports over 600,000 American jobs and contributes more than \$100 billion to the U.S. economy annually.

We recognize the challenges of advancing major tax legislation through the reconciliation process. However, domestic manufacturers continue to face rising energy, capital, and workforce costs. The provisions in the *OBBB* address many of these challenges and represent meaningful progress.

Key provisions of the bill that are particularly important to the cement industry include:

- Maintaining the corporate rate of 21%.
- Restoring the calculation for adjusted taxable income (ATI) in the IRC §163(j) interest deduction to earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization, and depletion (EBITDA).
- Restoring the allowance of an immediate deduction of R&D expenses (IRC §174) for five years. Providing for capital cost recovery through full bonus depreciation (IRC §168(k)).
- Preservation of the current treatment of percent depletion for minerals (Sec. 613).
- Creation of a depreciation allowance of 100% for a qualified production property used in the manufacturing, production, or refining of a qualified product.
- Creation of an electric vehicle fee, an essential step towards an equitable user fee structure for the Highway Trust Fund.

We are appreciative of the efforts made to include those provisions, which are key for our industry. However, we are concerned that proposed changes to the carbon sequestration tax credit (45Q) would reduce the effectiveness and usefulness of the credit. We encourage the House of Representatives to work with the Senate to protect the flexibility and durability of the tax credits in future negotiations. A consistent and equitable tax code is essential for manufacturers to remain globally competitive, invest in innovation, and grow their workforce. The OBBB is a step towards that goal. ACA looks forward to working with Congress as this legislation advances. We are committed to serving as a resource throughout the process.

If you have any questions, please contact me at soneill@cement.org.

Sincerely,

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Sean O'Neill Senior Vice President, Government Affairs Portland Cement Association