



**Thomas A. Allegretti**  
President & CEO

801 North Quincy Street  
Suite 200  
Arlington, VA 22203

tallegretti@americanwaterways.com  
703.841.9300

October 28, 2019

The Honorable Peter DeFazio  
Chairman  
House Transportation & Infrastructure  
Committee  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves  
Ranking Member  
House Transportation & Infrastructure  
Committee  
2164 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Grace Napolitano  
Chairwoman  
House Transportation & Infrastructure  
Committee  
Subcommittee on Water Resources and the  
Environment  
H2-585 Ford House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20002

The Honorable Bruce Westerman  
Ranking Member  
House Transportation & Infrastructure  
Committee  
Subcommittee on Water Resources and the  
Environment  
H-590 Ford House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Chairman DeFazio, Ranking Member Graves, Chairwoman Napolitano, and Ranking Member Westerman:

On behalf of The American Waterways Operators, thank you for introducing the “Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act” (H.R. 2440). The full allocation of Harbor Maintenance Tax collections each year is important to AWO members, and we strongly support the bill’s intended purpose to expand access to those funds, including the surplus of unspent funds. This legislation would enhance the ability of the Army Corps of Engineers to perform critical dredging work to ensure the safe and efficient movement of goods in our busy harbors and ports.

We appreciate Chairman DeFazio’s longstanding determination to resolve the issues around Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund spending and offer our thanks to each of you for advancing legislation to fund federal navigation infrastructure appropriate to the national demand. AWO strongly supports H.R. 2440, and encourages speedy passage of this legislation by Congress in 2019.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Allegretti