

ART DANIEL, President
EDDIE STEWART, Senior Vice President
DIRK ELSPERMAN, Vice President
MICHAEL MORRAND, Treasurer
STEPHEN E. SANDHERR, Chief Executive Officer
DAVID LUKENS, Chief Operating Officer



December 21, 2017

The Honorable Paul Ryan
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

RE: AGC KEY VOTE—Vote “YES” on H.R. 4667, the Emergency Disaster Aid Package

Dear Speaker Ryan:

On behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), I write to express our support for HR 4667, the Emergency Disaster Aid Package. This emergency funding for disasters caused by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, as well as the California wildfires is critical to essential relief and recovery efforts in addition to restoring, improving and building more resilient infrastructure. **AGC will record your vote on this essential emergency legislation as a “key vote” for the education of our more than 26,000 commercial construction firm membership.**

AGC members are working side-by-side with their fellow citizens in rebuilding efforts in all areas affected by this year’s natural disasters, including Texas, Florida, California, Louisiana, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The resources provided in this legislation for these efforts will help rebuild impacted communities and restore the critical infrastructure necessary to return a sense of normalcy for millions of people.

In the recent past, Congress has provided needed funds to parts of the country devastated by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma and Superstorm Sandy. Similarly, Congress provided emergency aid to the states of Colorado and South Carolina when historic flooding hit them in 2013 and 2015, respectively.

Though we fully recognize the budgetary constraints Congress must consider, under these circumstances the precedent for providing communities with federal funds to help recover from and prevent against death and destruction caused by natural disasters cannot be ignored.

Again, AGC strongly supports the Emergency Disaster Aid Package and urges a “Yes” vote when the bill is considered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey D. Shoaf".

Jeffrey D. Shoaf
Senior Executive Director, Government Affairs