Dear Representative XYZ -

As a constituent and member of Association for Materials Protection and Performance (AMPP), I am asking for you to cosponsor H.R. 8033, the Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act, which was introduced by Rep. John Garamendi (CA-3). The legislation safeguards federal investment, protects the environment, and enhances public safety by emphasizing corrosion planning.

Corrosion is a leading threat to our infrastructure – especially bridges. When corrosion is not properly accounted for, the results can be costly and catastrophic. According to a 2001 study from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), **corrosion costs the U.S. economy over $276 billion annually – roughly $560 billion when indexed to 2022**. The study estimates the direct cost of corrosion on bridges is $8.3 billion. By using currently available corrosion control practices, **researchers estimate a savings of between 15-35%, or $1.25-$2.9 billion**.

These numbers highlight the financial costs of corrosion and do not factor in the damage to the environment or the loss of life due to catastrophic failures. As an association, **our goal is to bring fatalities due to corrosion failures to zero.** To accomplish this, we protect infrastructure and assets through workforce education, training and credentialing, company accreditation, the development of technical standards, and technological innovation.

AMPP is the world’s leading organization focused on the protection of assets and the performance of industrial and natural materials. AMPP was established in 2021 following a merger between NACE International and SSPC: The Society for Protective Coatings. The new association unites 145 years of corrosion control and protective coatings expertise and service to industry and members worldwide.

H.R. 8033 enhances the safety of America’s bridges by promoting best practices and standards. Specifically, the legislation requires corrosion planning and training for all federal investments in bridge construction, repair, and maintenance projects. By passing this language, Congress will **extend the life of assets, protect the environment, increase public safety, and reduce costs for repairs, replacement, or bridge failures**.

Congress made a historic investment with the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). IIJA is a comprehensive bill that provides much-needed funding to states and communities across the country; however, we must do more to ensure this investment is protected. H.R. 8033 protects taxpayer funding, increases safety, and ensures all projects are completed with the highest quality possible. To learn more about the bill or to become a cosponsor, please contact Iain.Hart@mail.house.gov in Rep. Garamendi’s office.

AMPP looks forward to working with Congress to improve public safety. **We are available to serve as a resource to policymakers** and welcome the opportunity to connect you with our industry’s leading experts, including bridge inspectors. Should you need more information on AMPP, please contact AMPP’s Manager of Government Relations – adam.christopher@ampp.org.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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