

Coalition for America's Gateways & Trade Corridors
1111 19th Street, NW
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036

Dear CAGTC Members,

Yesterday Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and Lamar Alexander (R-TN) announced that along with a bipartisan group of yet-to-be-named Senators, the pair will be introducing a bill titled "American Waterworks Act". The timeline for bill introduction remains unclear at this time. According to a press release from Senator Alexander's office, the legislation would do the following:

- Remove the requirement that Olmstead Lock be funded using Inland Waterways Trust Fund revenues
- Provide full federal funding for maintenance of harbors up to 50 feet deep
- Establish an accounting method for revenues from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund that will allow them to offset annual Harbor Maintenance spending
- Speed up construction permit approval and provide states with the ability to appeal slow moving regulatory decision making
- Authorize a 5-year construction program to expand harbors to accommodate the larger ships expected after the Panama Canal expansion
- Increase revenue to Inland Waterways Trust Fund in a manner consistent with the agreement between the Inland Waterways Users and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Require Inland Waterways construction projects follow the plan agreed to by the Inland Waterways Users and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Fund Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund and Inland Waterways Trust Fund construction projects to authorized widths and depths as part of the 5-year construction program
- Fund landside infrastructure at ports

The full press release can be found here:

http://www.alexander.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=PressReleases&ContentRecord_id=036d9089-cfe2-427c-9817-8ee00aa9337a&ContentType_id=778be7e0-0d5a-42b2-9352-09ed63cc4d66&Group_id=80d87631-7c25-4340-a97a-72cccdd8a658

Elaine Nettle
Director, Operations and Advocacy

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1111 19th Street, NW
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202-828-9100
www.tradecorridors.org

Save the Date!

CAGTC's 2013 Annual Meeting: April 9 & 10 in Washington, D.C.