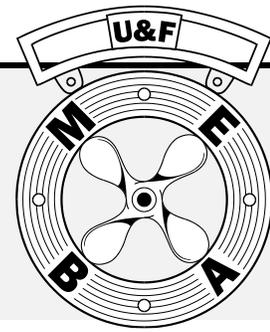


LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

JULY 2021



House Passes Transportation, Water Infrastructure Legislation, Includes Ferry Investments

On June 30, the House of Representatives approved a \$715 billion surface transportation reauthorization and water infrastructure bill that would provide significant federal investments in rebuilding American roads, highways, ports, rail and transit systems. The INVEST in America Act passed by a vote of 221 to 201, largely on party lines, which also included \$560 million for ferry operations as well as the construction of ferry boats and ferry terminals.

In addition, the legislation would require the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct a study on the capital investment needs of U.S. public ferries and how federal funding programs are meeting such needs.

Meanwhile, a bipartisan group of senators last week reached a deal on a \$579 billion infrastructure proposal endorsed by President Biden who is hoping to fulfill a campaign pledge to make resounding investments in our nation's infrastructure. The outcome of these negotiations remain unclear as lawmakers and the White House discuss other provisions that could complicate the process including disagreements over how to pay for it.