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March 6, 2014

United States Senator Jeanne Shaheen  
520 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Shaheen:

On behalf of North America's Building Trades Unions, I support your effort to strengthen America's bridge infrastructure by introducing the *Strengthen and Fortify Existing Bridges Act of 2013* (SAFE Bridges Act of 2014), S. 2063.

There is no arguing the fact that America's transportation infrastructure is in dire need of repair. Unfortunately, tragedies such as the I-35 Bridge collapse in Minneapolis, MN, as well as the I-5 Bridge collapse over the Skagit River in Washington State only highlight the structural deficiencies that can become commonplace when the necessary action to repair our crumbling infrastructure is put on the back burner.

According to the American Society of Civil Engineers, one in nine of the nation's bridges are rated as structurally deficient. Your bill, S. 2063, will provide a much needed infusion of resources to directly address the crumbling bridge infrastructure across our highway system.

Not only will your bill increase the safety of the traveling public and commerce, but the funding authorized will create thousands of jobs across all facets of the construction industry. Our members are ready, willing, and able to go to work repairing our infrastructure, and look forward to working with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Sean McGarvey  
President