

2018

Federal Policy and Advocacy Priorities

Ensure the Rock Island Arsenal (RIA) is a successful and valuable national asset:

- Bring new DOD missions and federal agencies to the RIA, and reduce the number of federal leases nationwide.
- Support the critical Organic Industrial Base:
 - Ensure the Army provides “make or buy” guidance and sufficient workload is awarded to maintain the RIA’s unique and critical capabilities.
 - Pass legislation allowing flexibility in labor rate to ensure Arsenals are competitive and enhance public-private partnerships.
 - Direct the DOD to ensure carry-over rules are interpreted the same across all branches of service.
- Explore expanding the capacity of hydropower to be energy self-sufficient and reduce overhead cost at RIA and Iowa Army Ammunition Plant.

Invest in transportation and infrastructure:

- Ensure continued support for top-projects:
 - I-74 Bridge
 - I-80 Bridge
 - Quad Cities – Chicago Passenger Rail Service
- Enhance FAST Act opportunities:
 - Increase funding for: Amtrak National Network Account, CRISI, and REG.
 - Expand CRISI eligibility to include station and station area development and track improvements.
 - Remove FASTLANE funding cap for non-highway freight projects.
- Fund “Major Rehabilitation” projects and lock expansion on the upper Mississippi River via an infrastructure bill or Water Resources Development Act appropriation.

Address regulations and barriers to commerce:

- Reform regulations to be practical and less burdensome while still promoting responsible action.
 - DOL’s Overtime
 - OSHA’s Silica Sand
 - consistent & practical DNR enforcement
 - Dodd-Frank Act
 - Affordable Care Act
- Reform the Biggert-Waters Act to:
 - Differentiate between coastal and inland flood risk under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
 - Increase coverage availability for the Increase Cost of Compliance (ICC) program.
 - Increase support and resources for communities to plan and mitigate repetitively flooded areas.
 - Ensure consistent enforcement of development in floodplains in all states.

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Strengthen long-term energy production and access:

- Maintain renewable energy production tax credits, and implement a Federal Investment Tax Credit for nuclear generation.
- Invest and improve access and management of the energy grid.
- Streamline and expedite the process for hydropower licensing.
 - Enact trade agreements that allow local business access to foreign markets without facing tariffs and other barriers or disadvantages.
 - ◆ Renegotiate the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).
 - Allow for states to collect sales tax from sellers without a physical presence in the state.