

For Immediate Release: February 2, 2012

Washington, D.C.— During consideration of H.R. 7, the American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act, by the House Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I) Committee today, Representative Duncan Hunter successfully offered an amendment to require a study of 17 strategic ports—including San Diego—for the purpose of improving operations, safety and security. Hunter also praised the legislation, which reauthorizes highway and transit programs for five years, as an investment in American infrastructure and job creation.

“Since 2009, highway and transit programs have been extended eight times, denying states the clarity that’s needed to responsibly undertake major projects that serve to create jobs and benefit entire communities,” said Hunter. “This five-year reauthorization is a solid plan that provides both stability and flexibility to states, cuts 70 federal transportation programs and eliminates burdensome federal mandates.”

“I’m especially pleased to have the support of my colleagues for a comprehensive study of 17 strategic ports, including the Port of San Diego. By examining facility requirements, road and highway improvements, rail connections and other capacities, the study will be a valuable tool as Congress works to provide greater access to our ports, improve the movement of goods and enhance maritime security.”

Representative Hunter’s amendment requires that the study be completed no later than six months after the enactment of H.R. 7—which is expected to be voted on by the T&I Committee late tonight.