



May 14, 2013

The Honorable Kristen E. Gillibrand
U.S. Senate
478 Russell Building
Washington, DC 20505

The Honorable Roger F. Wicker
U.S. Senate
555 Dirksen Building
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Senator Gillibrand and Senator Wicker:

We write in strong support of S. 904, legislation you introduced regarding extreme weather and the importance of assisting communities with their efforts to build with greater resiliency.

Promoting the use of durable materials and more resilient construction techniques is a goal everyone should share. A National Institute of Building Sciences Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council study reported that every dollar spent on reducing the potential impact of disasters saves society an average of \$4.

As Congress looks to help communities prepare and rebuild, we need to encourage measures that make our communities more resilient to extreme weather to protect life and property. Taxpayer dollars need to be spent wisely in a way that encourages communities to be more resilient to future storms. Our nation can afford no less, especially given the current fiscal climate.

Superstorm Sandy is just the latest storm to cause unprecedented amounts of property damage. We know some types of structures fare better than others. Yet to be determined is whether or not federal, state, and local authorities will learn the lessons of Sandy and change the way we build. Your legislation, S. 904, provides a commonsense path forward. It is an excellent way to help communities build smarter and with greater resiliency.

We encourage all of your colleagues in the Senate to support S. 904 and any related efforts. We are prepared to help however we can.

Sincerely,

Portland Cement Association
American Concrete Pavement Association
American Concrete Pipe Association
American Concrete Pressure Pipe Association
American Concrete Pumping Association
Brick Industry Association
Concrete Polishing Association of America
Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute

Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute
International Concrete Repair Institute
National Concrete Masonry Association
National Precast Concrete Association
National Ready Mixed Concrete Association
Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute
Slag Cement Association

Cc: U.S. Senate