

## Dredging Contractors of America Sustaining America's Access to the World

503 D Street NW, Suite 150 Washington, DC 20001-2728 (202) 737-2674

March 19, 2012

The Honorable John A. Boehner Speaker United States House of Representatives H-232 United States Capitol Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Minority Leader United States House of Representatives H-204 United States Capitol Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Minority Leader Pelosi:

The Dredging Contractors of America (DCA) support the passage of H.R. 3096, the RESTORE the Gulf Coast States Act (RESTORE Act) as part of the Transportation Bill. We commend and support House leadership for passing by voice vote the Scalise amendment to the House Transportation bill and urge you to expedite passage of a Transportation bill that includes the RESTORE Act.

The RESTORE Act appropriately allocates eighty percent of the Clean Water Act penalties, as a result of the BP oil spill, to the five Gulf Coast States, and establishes an effective management and financing framework for the economic and ecological recovery for years to come. DCA believes that this bill seeks to balance the ecological and economic interests of a comprehensive restoration plan.

We understand that BP and the Federal government may soon settle the litigation regarding the 2010 Gulf oil spill. Congress must take action before any settlement occurs, or the economic opportunities created by RESTORE Act could be lost. We urge you to pass the Transportation Bill that includes the RESTORE Act to ensure that the BP oil spill penalties can be used for ecosystem and economic recovery in those States and communities directly harmed by the worst environmental disaster in U.S. history.

Sincerely,

Barry W. Holliday Executive Director

**Dredging Contractors of America**