

The National Stone Sand and Gravel Association supports both The Honest and Open New Science Treatment Act of 2017 (HONEST Act) and the EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2017.

Both acts go a long way towards addressing many of the current issues our industry has with regulatory science, and we encourage the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology to mark up both pieces of legislation.

Our association represents 100,000 jobs across the United States. The regulatory burden on our workforce dramatically impacts our ability to provide cost-effective materials for America's roads, runways, bridges and ports. Our members pride themselves on their commitment to environmental stewardship and are heavily involved in sustainability and reclamation in their communities.

Federal regulations must balance industry's voice and environmental and health concerns. Unfortunately, we often see problems in the scientific underpinnings of regulations when agencies select studies that are neither public nor reproducible as the basis of new rules. This practice chips away at the credibility of any regulatory action and makes it difficult for industries to respect the regulatory process. Our members have the right to comment on regulations and it is not reasonable to ask hard working men and women of any industry to trust that an agency has selected good science without if an agency is not being transparent.

Stakeholder input in the regulatory process is required under federal law and valuable for the justification and the implementation of rules.

NSSGA stands ready to work with Congress to ensure that industry, states and the scientific community can work together openly and honestly to create regulations.

Sincerely,



Michael W. Johnson
President and CEO
National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association