



June 9, 2004

The Honorable William M. Thomas  
Chairman, House Ways and Means Committee  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), I am writing to express our support for the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (H.R. 4520). This bill will promote job growth, enhance the competitiveness of U.S.-based companies and provide an important economic stimulus to our economy.

ACEC is the business association of America's engineering industry, representing over 6,000 independent engineering companies throughout the United States. ACEC members are engaged in a wide range of engineering works that propel the nation's economy, and enhance and safeguard America's quality of life. Our industry employs close to a million people and generates \$100 billion in annual revenue.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, the engineering industry has qualified for FSC/ETI and its predecessor export-based provisions since the inception of the program in 1972. The inclusion of engineering services in H.R. 4520 will help offset the loss of the FSC/ETI benefit, and help strengthen economic conditions and promote job growth in this critical sector.

We commend your efforts to move this important legislation forward, and we look forward to working with you during the conference with the Senate to ensure an economically healthy engineering industry.

Thank you again for your leadership in promoting the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004. ACEC pledges our continued support of your efforts to secure its passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David A. Raymond". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David A. Raymond  
President