October 9, 2026

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Thune and Minority Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS), I write in support of the Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act of 2026 and urge timely Senate consideration. PLASTICS represents companies across the plastics supply chain, including material suppliers, equipment manufacturers, processors, and recyclers. Our industry operates in all 50 states and supplies essential materials for healthcare, food packaging, construction, transportation, energy, and defense.

As the nation's eighth-largest manufacturing industry, plastics and its suppliers accounted for 1.66 million jobs and $715.8 billion in shipments in 2025. Strengthening this manufacturing base supports businesses, workers, and consumers throughout the economy.

Sustaining and growing this manufacturing base requires affordable, reliable energy to produce resins and power molding, extrusion, and recycling equipment. The proposal's provisions to accelerate interstate transmission permitting, strengthen grid planning, and connect new generation would help deliver the electricity manufacturers need to operate and expand. Increasing available power and improving the grid would also help address energy costs that affect our industry's competitiveness and the affordability of everyday products.

The proposal would also strengthen investment certainty through enforceable environmental review deadlines and clearer rules for legal challenges. These reforms would help qualifying manufacturing and infrastructure projects move forward while maintaining environmental safeguards. Plastics manufacturers also supply pipes, insulation, wire and cable coverings, and other components needed to build modern infrastructure, creating additional opportunities for American production and jobs.

We thank Senators Capito, Whitehouse, Lee, and Heinrich for their leadership in developing this bipartisan agreement. We urge the Senate to advance the legislation and work with the House to deliver lasting permitting reform that strengthens American manufacturing, supports jobs, and helps address affordability.

Sincerely,



Matt Seaholm
President & CEO
Plastics Industry Association

cc: The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
The Honorable Mike Lee
The Honorable Martin Heinrich