Plan to Pay for Biden Infrastructure Plan is Dangerously Misguided

Yesterday, the Biden administration released its infrastructure plan. There's no question we need a big and bold program to modernize our nation's crumbling infrastructure, and we applaud them for making infrastructure a top priority.

But the proposal is dangerously misguided when it comes to how to pay for it. Properly done, a major investment in infrastructure today is an investment in the future, and, like a new home, should be paid for over time by the users who benefit from the investment.

Our take: We strongly oppose the general tax increases proposed by the administration which will slow the economic recovery and make the U.S. less competitive globally – the exact opposite of the goals of the infrastructure plan.

In fact, for many years, the Chamber has proposed a modest increase in federal fuel user fees. Along with contributions from growing numbers of electric vehicles, this needs to be part of the funding discussion.

Why it matters: If the corporate rate goes up as proposed in the plan, the tax code will be more uncompetitive and more punishing for U.S.-based companies. Tax increases will cost thousands of working Americans their jobs and stymie the recovering economy at the worst possible time.

Look to bipartisan solutions: The hard work of achieving bipartisan consensus is the best and only realistic path to getting historic infrastructure legislation passed. Efforts to find consensus from bipartisan groups in both the House and Senate are encouraging and a start in a long process.

Bottom line: We urge both Democrats and Republicans to avoid further partisan gridlock and provide productive solutions to pass an infrastructure bill this year.

Learn more:

- The Chamber has helped build a diverse coalition of over 300 organizations unified in calling for action by the Fourth of July.

–Neil Bradley, Executive Vice President and Chief Policy Officer, U.S. Chamber of Commerce