

ACEC Indiana

Short List



PUBLISHED FOR ACEC INDIANA MEMBERS

Opportunities and Challenges in the Year Ahead



*A message from
Philip D. Beer, II
ACEC National
PAC Champion -
Indiana*

As ACEC/PAC Champion for Indiana, I would like to extend a personal thank you to each individual who contributed to ACEC/PAC in 2008. Indiana once again exceeded our goal as established by ACEC/PAC Board, and is one of only 2 states to have met the PAC goal for 6 consecutive years. In addition, a big "Thank You" to Stephanie Morse and Beth Bauer, along with each member of ACEC Indiana Board of Directors for their help in reaching our goal.

I truly appreciate how contributors to the national PAC understand the need for effective advocacy by ACEC with Congress for our businesses. ACEC/PAC raised over \$1.1 million in the 2007- 2008 election cycle to support pro-business U.S. House and U.S. Senate candidates, putting ACEC in the top 3% of all PACs nationally. In fact, ACEC/PAC has now surpassed AGC's!

In 2008, ACEC had the following legislative success:

- * 9% tax deduction for A/E firms.
- * "Opt out" fix to prevent state overhead caps, recognition of cognizant

- audits, enhance QBS.
- * Fair Labor Standards Act regulations to ease compliance and avoid lawsuits.
- * Fully funding SAFETEA LU to avoid cuts to state transportation programs.
- * New student loan benefit to encourage more young people to pursue engineering careers.
- * Legislation to promote contracting out; defeated all major anti-contractor measures.
- * Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), authorizing \$24 billion in new water projects.

Without you and your continued support of ACEC/PAC we could not have had these successes!

As we enter into 2009 and a more turbulent economic time, we need to maintain our focus on the opportunities and challenges presented to ACEC.

Opportunities for 2009...

- + Secure timely passage of SAFETEA LU reauthorization bill and significantly boost funding for transportation projects.

2009 New Year's Resolutions to keep your firm "healthy":

1. Support ACEC in membership as it supports your business.
2. Contribute to both ACEC PAC's.
3. Attend ACEC luncheons/events for education and networking.

- + Secure passage of major water and aviation infrastructure funding bills & expand QBS.
- + Promote investment in new energy infrastructure, incentives for energy-efficient buildings, and other initiatives to create business opportunities in the energy sector.
- + Pass ACEC legislation to protect the ability of engineering firms to use cash accounting.
- + Secure passage of ACEC's Good Samaritan legislation and other measures to protect firms from unfair and costly litigation.
- + Fully fund and expand new engineering student loan program; secure more H-1B visas.

...and Looming Challenges – Why Your Continued Support is Critical

- + Defeat resurgent union efforts to curtail contracting out by federal & state agencies.
- + Repeal the onerous 3% withholding mandate that will impact all federal and state contracts.
- + Fight potentially harmful new regulatory efforts, unionization legislation, tax increases, and other initiatives detrimental to the A/E industry.

Let's continue to lead all the other states and reach our new goal for 2009! With your continued support of ACEC/PAC we will have the legislative successes necessary for the future of our industry and your business. **Thanks again for your support!**



SOMERSET
CPAs
Passionate about your success.

We understand your business from the foundation up.

Learn how Somerset can help you move your engineering business to new levels.

Contact Chris Mayfield, CPA
Construction & A/E Team
317.472.2200 - 800.469.7206
www.somersetcpas.com

- ASSURANCE SERVICES
- INDOT OVERHEAD RATE AUDITS
- TAX SERVICES
- BUSINESS PLANNING
- INFORMATION SOLUTIONS