



Construction Industry Round Table

Regulatory/Legislative News **UPDATE**

A force for positive change in the design / construction industry

9/28/2015 – Regulatory Streamlining Legislation Wins Approval in House

The U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 348, the “*Responsibly And Professionally Invigorating Development (RAPID) Act*” by a bipartisan vote of 233-170. CIRT is a long-time member of a large Chamber of Commerce coalition that has pushed for passage this legislation to bring much-needed reforms to streamline the federal permitting process for infrastructure and energy projects. For example, H.R. 348 would call for increased cooperation among federal agencies during the permitting process and it would set deadlines for the review of project permit applications. In addition to the House’s passage of permit streamlining, the Senate permit streamlining legislation, S. 280, the “*Federal Permitting Improvement Act of 2015*,” from Senators Portman and McCaskill, has already passed the Senate as part of the highway bill. Advocates (which CIRT has been a leading voice and made part of its basic policy views for years) are hopeful now that permit streamlining legislation has passed both Houses of Congress that a compromise version between the House and Senate can be sent as a final bill to the President for signature.