



## *Works for California*

ACEC/PAC plays an essential role in advancing policies at the national level that benefit engineering firms in California. Through its support of members of the California congressional delegation (**\$126,500 to 24 candidates in the 2013-14 election cycle and \$66,500 budgeted to 23 candidates this year alone**) ACEC/PAC has helped to secure a number of recent legislative and regulatory wins.

### **ACEC/PAC has helped California firms by:**

- **Expanding QBS** – through a provision in WRRDA 2014 requiring communities in California to use QBS for wastewater projects funded through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) program; WRRDA also created a new financing mechanism for water/wastewater needs (WIFIA).
- **Promoting Contracting Out** – through WRRDA and the pending MAP-21 reauthorization bill to support more private sector engagement by the Corps of Engineers and State DOTs.
- **Reinforcing Federal Audit/Procurement Rules** – through new regulations issued by FHWA in 2015 (based on legislation ACEC pushed through Congress) that will further enhance the FAR-based audit and procurement rules Caltrans must follow, bolster QBS requirements, and promote uniform standards for California firms working in other states.
- **Protecting Infrastructure Funding** – ACEC successfully averted drastic cuts to transportation programs threatened in recent congressional budget proposals.
- **Repealing the 3% Withholding Mandate** – which could have affected all firms working for federal agencies, as well as state agencies and larger municipalities in California.
- **Protecting Against Unfair Tax Burdens** – including proposed payroll tax increases on S corporation owners and an expanded IRS Form 1099 filing mandate.

### **What's Next?**

- **MAP-21 Reauthorization** – sustainable long-term funding for highway and transit projects and incentives to promote contracting out by Caltrans.
- **FAA Reauthorization** – to expand investments in airport projects and strengthen QBS requirements for projects funded through Passenger Facility Charges (PFCs).
- **A New Energy Agenda** – to expand oil/gas markets, streamline permitting, promote efficiency.
- **Balanced Tax Reform** – to benefit large and small businesses equally, promote research and business investment, and preserve the ability of firms to use cash accounting.
- **Protect Infrastructure Programs** – during the ongoing budget and appropriations process.
- **Enforce the use of QBS and the FAR** – in federal and state contracts using federal funds.

### **ACEC/PAC works for California.**

For more information on ACEC/PAC – visit our website at [www.acec.org/advocacy/advocacy-pac](http://www.acec.org/advocacy/advocacy-pac) and log in with your ACEC credentials.