



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact:  
Alison Phillips  
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce  
619-544-1381 (w); 805-886-8594 (c)  
[aphillips@sdchamber.org](mailto:aphillips@sdchamber.org)

**SAN YSIDRO PORT OF ENTRY FUNDING APPROVED BY CONGRESS**

**SAN DIEGO** (July 16, 2014) - The San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce is pleased that H.R. 5016 – Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015, which includes \$216 million for the San Ysidro Port of Entry Modernization and Expansion Project, was approved by the House today. Today’s approval is significant as this funding is for the final phase of the project that will assist in solidifying San Diego as the gateway to domestic and international markets.

“Business and community leaders are unified in prioritizing this project as it strengthens our competitive viability on a global scale,” said Jerry Sanders, President and CEO of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce. “The San Diego economy will benefit from this project with billions of dollars in revenue and tens of thousands of jobs.”

Now, with the House approval, the focus turns to the Senate, where approval of the funds is critical to complete the project. We are committed to continuing our efforts in advocating for this funding and are hopeful the Senate will support the project.

“I am proud to be part of the bipartisan San Diego delegation that made the San Ysidro Port of Entry (SYPOE) Modernization and Expansion Project a top priority,” said Representative Juan Vargas (CA-51). “Although I greatly disagree with many of the provisions within the bill, I’m pleased that its approval on the House floor brings us one step closer to fully funding this project. Completion of the SYPOE project will result in more jobs, greater border safety and efficiency, and increased economic growth.”

Early this year, at the urging of the San Diego delegation, Congress approved \$226 million for phase 3 of the San Ysidro Land Port of Entry Modernization and Expansion Project. The funding approved today will ensure the completion of this long awaited project.

The San Ysidro Land Port of Entry, the world’s busiest land port, serves more than 50,000 vehicles and approximately 25,000 pedestrian crossings every day. In a 2007 study, the San Diego Association of Governments estimated that delays due to border wait times cost our cross-

border economies \$7.2 billion in lost gross output and more than 62,000 jobs. In 2011, the United States and Mexico agreed to modernize and expand the San Ysidro Land Port of Entry.

***About The San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce***

*The San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce is the leading, most effective voice for business policy and connections in the San Diego-Baja region. As the largest Chamber on the West Coast, representing more than 3,000 businesses and 400,000 employees, the SDRCC is committed to organizing the business community to make San Diego the best place to do business and create jobs. For more information, please visit [www.sdchamber.org](http://www.sdchamber.org) or call 619-544-1300.*

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