



## Construction Industry Round Table

## Legislative News

*A force for positive change in the design / construction industry*

### 1/23/09 – Details of House Stimulus Bill Not Stimulating

As the details begin to emerge on a stimulus bill being cobbled together in the U.S. House, it appears that the effort misses President Obama's desire to see "bold and swift" action on the economy. At least as far as the infrastructure spending portion of the bill is concerned [which totals some \$825 billion overall, with the breakdown as follows: \$275 billion will go for tax relief (although not to the majority of tax payers), \$200 billion will be spent to expand jobless benefits and health care, and the remaining \$350 billion going to infrastructure and other discretionary items] only a small percentage or about \$26 billion is expected to be spent by the end of the 2009 fiscal year (9/30/09), with another \$110 billion in 2010. Since most critics of the enormous bill question its "stimulating" effects, delaying infrastructure outlays are especially damaging since they are the one area that might actually result in job creation and economic activity.