

June 3, 2009

The Honorable Bill Nelson
United States Senate
716 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

Freight trains deliver just about everything that keeps America moving forward, from the chemicals that purify our drinking water, to the wheat in our bread, to computers, clothes, cars, and the energy used to generate more than half of the nation's electricity.

In these economically troubling times, it is important for us to think ahead and plan effectively. One area of concern is our transportation infrastructure which needs to expand and improve if we, as a nation, are to efficiently and cost-effectively move raw materials in, and finished goods out. If not, according to recent government studies, we will soon be faced with another economic calamity as the amount of freight transported will almost double by the year 2035.

A proposed bill – the Freight Rail Infrastructure Capacity Expansion Act (FRICEA) – would create a 25 percent investment tax incentive for projects that expand and improve the nation's rail network. Please support, and consider co-sponsoring, this act which would support our local and statewide businesses and help to revitalize our national economy.

Through intermodal service - freight shared by trucks and trains - railroads move almost 12 million trailers or containers a year. That means less traffic on our roads, less pollution in our skies, less wasted energy, and safer highways. One freight train can transport 280 truck trailers – the equivalent of taking 1,100 automobiles off our highways.

The Rail Competition and Service Improvement Act (S. 953 and HR 2125 from last year) currently being discussed would make dramatic changes to the Staggers Rail Act of 1980. At a time when freight rail needs significant investments in order to meet burgeoning demand, I encourage you to carefully consider all aspects of proposed changes to Staggers to ensure the type of balanced measures that have helped make U.S. rail a healthy industry.

Sincerely,

June 3, 2009

The Honorable Mel Martinez
United States Senate
356 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Martinez:

Freight trains deliver just about everything that keeps America moving forward, from the chemicals that purify our drinking water, to the wheat in our bread, to computers, clothes, cars, and the energy used to generate more than half of the nation's electricity.

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Congressman F. Allen Boyd, Jr.
United States Congress
1227 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Rep. Boyd:

Freight trains deliver just about everything that keeps America moving forward, from the chemicals that purify our drinking water, to the wheat in our bread, to computers, clothes, cars, and the energy used to generate more than half of the nation's electricity.

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June 3, 2009

Congressman Ander Crenshaw
United States Congress
440 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Rep. Crenshaw:

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