

Chair, Secretary Frank J. Busalacchi, Wisconsin DOT  
Vice Chair, Rail Manager Ken Uznanski, Washington DOT  
Secretary-Treasurer, Deputy Commissioner Karen J. Rae, New York DOT



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June 5, 2008

The Honorable James Oberstar  
Chair, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
2365 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Mica  
Ranking Member, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
2313 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Corrine Brown  
Chair, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee,  
Subcommittee on Railroads, Hazardous Materials and Pipelines  
2336 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Bill Shuster  
Ranking Member, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee,  
Subcommittee on Railroads, Hazardous Materials and Pipelines  
Room 204 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives:

Allow me to commend you for your work on the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (HR-6003) and for reporting the bill so quickly out of your Committee. Members of the States for Passenger Rail Coalition (the Coalition) are excited to see this legislation moving and are most grateful to you for your leadership, which has been tremendous and continues to be critical to the future of intercity passenger rail transportation in our country.

In my testimony on HR-6003 and in my follow-up letter to you of May 21, 2008, I outlined the Coalition's key issues and concerns with regard to this bill. The Coalition continues to look to you for leadership on the two issues that we consider critical to the outcome that we all want from HR-6003 – more intercity passenger rail service. We hope to offer more perspective on the best approach to implementing the Capital Assistance Program for the States. We continue to believe that on-time performance is a critical performance measure that must be included in the bill. Our goal remains the same – more service that is frequent and on time.

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Minnesota  
Mississippi  
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Ohio  
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South Carolina  
Tennessee  
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We will work to encourage the congressional representatives of our member states to support this bill – either through their co-sponsorship or their positive votes on the House floor for its passage. I look forward to our continued strong working relationship and cannot say enough about the excitement growing in the states in anticipation of intercity passenger rail once again becoming an integral part of our nation's surface transportation system.

Sincerely,

*Frank J. Busalacchi*

Frank J. Busalacchi  
Chair, States for Passenger Rail Coalition  
Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Transportation

cc: Members of the Subcommittee on Railroads,  
Pipelines and Hazardous Materials

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- Missouri
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- New York
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- North Carolina
- Ohio
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