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UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROSA L. DELAURO

30 DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

January 15, 1999

CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION,
AND RELATED AGENCIES

Mr. Michael Sussman, President
Mr. Drew Miller, Vice President
Strategic Rail Finance
4100 Main Street
Philadelphia, PA 19127

Gentlemen:

I am writing to thank you for your support of the National Infrastructure Development Act, which establishes public-private partnerships to invest in infrastructure and create jobs. As you may know, this bill has been reintroduced in the 106th Congress as H.R. 115.

I am sure you will be pleased to learn that the bill has been modified to make freight rail projects eligible for financing through the proposed National Infrastructure Development Corporation. I agree with your assessment that encouraging public-private investments in shortline and other freight rail can only enhance the effectiveness of our nation's transportation system. As commerce increases, freight rail can supplement the flow of goods and supplies to our most populated urban areas, particularly as these regions continue to grow. Increased rail development will also improve environmental quality by limiting the exponential rate of use of our already congested urban roadways.

During the coming months, I will be seeking support from both the private sector and from my colleagues in order to advance H.R. 115. I would encourage the businesses and organizations you work with to contact their own representatives and senators to help advance this important legislation.

Thank you again for sharing your interest in the National Infrastructure Development Act. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rosa L. DeLauro".

Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress