



March 25, 2014

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
 Chairman
 Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works
 410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bill Shuster
 Chairman
 House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
 2165 Rayburn House Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David Vitter
 Ranking Member
 Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works
 456 Dirksen Senate Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nick Rahall
 Ranking Member
 House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
 2165 Rayburn House Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairmen Boxer and Shuster and Ranking Members Vitter and Rahall:

As a national business community, we are grateful for your leadership in passing the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) into law in 2012 after several years of short-term transportation funding authorizations. MAP-21 has led to the implementation of long overdue reforms, but its brief authorization will end in only six short months. In order to ensure stability and economic growth, we need to plan its successor now.

One of the United States' greatest competitive advantages is our ability to quickly move goods and people across long distances. Today that advantage is threatened as countries like China, India, and Brazil have dramatically increased investments in their transportation infrastructure. These investments strengthen their abilities to compete directly with American farmers, manufacturers, and businesses.

At the same time that other countries are increasing investments, we have allowed our infrastructure to deteriorate. In 2013, the American Society of Civil Engineers gave the United States a grade of D+ on their Report Card for America's Infrastructure. While concerning, this grade barely scratches the surface of an estimated \$3.6 trillion in infrastructure investment needs by 2020.

As you begin the task of constructing the next surface transportation bill, we ask that you consider these critical principles:

- At minimum, a five-year authorization to provide predictability and certainty to a sector of our economy that needs stability and growth;
- Dedicated federal funds to ensure the solvency of the Highway Trust Fund;
- Flexibility for states to invest in transportation infrastructure as they deem necessary; and
- Freedom for states to choose their own funding options.

Several states have passed their own laws to increase investment in transportation infrastructure, but state action alone is not enough. Even with increased state revenues and innovative mechanisms, such as public-private partnerships, there are projects of national significance that cannot be completed without federal assistance.

Our deteriorating national transportation infrastructure is not a small state issue or a large state issue. It is not a small business issue or a large business issue. It is a national issue and it directly impacts America's competitiveness in the global marketplace. We urge you to act now to strengthen our nation's infrastructure and provide our economy with the support it needs to remain a global economic leader.

Thank you for your time and attention to these important issues.

Sincerely,



William J. Canary
President & CEO
Business Council of Alabama



Rachael Petro
President & CEO
Alaska Chamber



Glenn Hamer
President & CEO
Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry



Randy Zook
President & CEO
Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce



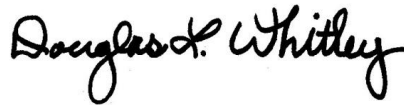
Allan Zaremborg
President & CEO
California Chamber of Commerce



Mark Wilson
President & CEO
Florida Chamber of Commerce



Chris Clark
President & CEO
Georgia Chamber of Commerce



Douglas L. Whitley
President & CEO
Illinois Chamber of Commerce



Kevin M. Brinegar
President & CEO
Indiana Chamber of Commerce

Michael Ralston
President
Iowa Association of Business and Industry

Dave Adkisson
President & CEO
Kentucky Chamber of Commerce

Stephen Waguespack
President
Louisiana Association of Business and Industry

Kathleen Snyder
President & CEO
Maryland Chamber of Commerce

Richard Lord
President & CEO
Associated Industries of Massachusetts

Daniel P. Mehan
President & CEO
Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Webb Scott Brown
President & CEO
Montana Chamber of Commerce & Montana Manufacturing Council

Barry Kennedy
President
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Jim Roche
President
Business & Industry Association of New Hampshire

Thomas A. Bracken
President & CEO
New Jersey Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Beverlee J. McClure
President & CEO
Association of Commerce & Industry New Mexico

Heather C. Briccetti
President & CEO
The Business Council of New York State, Inc.

Lew Ebert
President & CEO
North Carolina Chamber

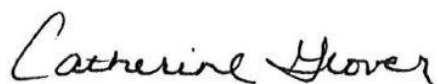
Andy Peterson
President & CEO
Greater North Dakota Chamber

Fred Morgan
President & CEO
State Chamber of Oklahoma


Jay M. Clemens
President & CEO
Associated Oregon Industries

Gene Barr
President and CEO
Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry

Otis B. Rawl
President & CEO
South Carolina Chamber of Commerce



Catherine Glover
President
Tennessee Chamber of Commerce &
Industry and Tennessee Manufacturers
Association



Barry E. DuVal
President & CEO
Virginia Chamber of Commerce



Kristofer Johnson
President & CEO
Association of Washington Business



Kurt Bauer
President/CEO
Wisconsin Manufacturers &
Commerce

cc:

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid
Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell
House Speaker John Boehner
House Majority Leader Cantor
House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi
House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer
Chairman Tim Johnson, Senate Banking Committee
Ranking Member Mike Crapo, Senate Banking Committee
Chairman Dave Camp, House Committee on Ways and Means
Ranking Member Sander Levin, House Committee on Ways and Means
Members of Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works
Members of House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure