



National Association of Regional Councils

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May 7, 2007

The Honorable James Oberstar
Chairman
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Oberstar:

The National Association of Regional Councils (NARC), representing regional planning and development organizations which are comprised of local governments and are governed by local elected officials nationwide, strongly supports the passage of the following legislation: the Railroad Competition and Service Improvement Act of 2007 (H.R. 2125) and the Federal Railroad Safety Improvement Act of 2007 (H.R. 2095).

A safe, secure and efficient rail system is a critical component of our national infrastructure system. Reauthorizing the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and improving the safety of the nation's railroads, along with the preservation of existing rail-to-rail competition, will maximize the effective performance of our railroads and strengthen our national transportation and infrastructure network.

The efficient movement of people, goods and services requires a strong, well-integrated multi-modal transportation system. Railroads, with their capacity to efficiently move goods and services throughout this country, play a key role in this system. NARC fully supports efforts to improve rail capacity and further strengthen our transportation system. We commend your leadership on these important issues.

In addition to our support, NARC offers its assistance for these or other transportation issues. Please do not hesitate to contact me if we can be of assistance. I can be reached at 202.986.1032 x 213 or cmoore@narc.org. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cameron Moore
Executive Director

