

October 27, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20500

**RE: Administration Must Continue to Engage to Avoid a Rail Strike**

Dear President Biden:

On behalf of the undersigned trade associations, we are writing to you today urging you to continue to work with the railroad unions and railroads to ensure that the tentative agreement that you helped broker is ratified by the parties. It is paramount that these contracts now be ratified, as a rail shutdown would have a significant impact on the U.S. economy and lead to further inflationary pressure.

We applaud your Administration for leading on this issue from the onset. With your help, from establishing the Presidential Emergency Board to involvement in the direct negotiations among the parties, the tentative agreement was reached on September 15. We have seen six of the twelve unions ratify the agreement to date.

Unfortunately, we have seen two unions reject the agreement and there are concerns that others may follow. If that were to be the case, we could witness a strike that would shut down the entire freight rail system. Because the White House played such a central role in the process, we believe it can be helpful in continuing to move the process forward in a positive direction. Otherwise, Congress will be called upon to act.

We continue to urge that the contracts be ratified to provide stability and predictability to the system. Your involvement can only help make that happen and ensure there is no interruption to rail service.

We thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Agribusiness Association of Iowa  
AgriBusiness Association of Kentucky  
Agribusiness Council of Indiana  
Agricultural Retailers Association  
AgTC Agriculture Transportation Coalition  
Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration  
Institute  
Airforwarders Association  
Alabama Beverage Association  
Alabama Trucking Association

Alliance for Automotive Innovation  
Alliance of Wisconsin Retailers  
Aluminum Association  
American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA)  
American Association of Exporters and Importers  
American Bakers Association  
American Beverage Association  
American Building Materials Alliance  
American Chemistry Council  
American Composites Manufacturers Association

American Down and Feather Council  
 American Coatings Association  
 American Cotton Producers  
 American Cotton Shippers Association  
 American Farm Bureau Federation  
 American Feed Industry Association  
 American Forest & Paper Association  
 American Foundry Society  
 American Frozen Food Institute  
 American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers  
 American Herbal Products Association  
 American Home Furnishings Alliance  
 American Lighting Association  
 American Petroleum Institute  
 American Pyrotechnics Association  
 American Seed Trade Association  
 American Soybean Association  
 American Spice Trade Association  
 American Trucking Associations  
 Arizona Beverage Association  
 Arizona Retailers Association  
 Arizona Trucking Association  
 Arkansas Grocers and Retail Merchants  
 Asian American Hotel Owners Association  
 (AAHOA)  
 Associated Equipment Distributors  
 Associated Builders and Contractors  
 Associated General Contractors of America  
 Associated Industries of Missouri  
 Association of Food Industries  
 Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers  
 (AHAM)  
 Auto Care Association  
 Autos Drive America  
 Beer Institute  
 California Alfalfa and Forage Association  
 California Association for Local Economic  
 Development  
 California Association of Wheat Growers  
 California Bean Shippers Association  
 California Building Industry Association  
 California Business Properties Association  
 California Chamber of Commerce  
 California Citrus Mutual  
 California Fresh Fruit Association  
 California Grain and Feed Association  
 California Retailers Association  
 California Rice Commission  
 California Seed Association  
 California Trucking Association  
 California Warehouse Association  
 Calorie Control Council  
 Can Manufacturers Institute  
 Carolina Feed Industry Association  
 CAWA – Representing the Automotive Parts Industry  
 Consumer Technology Association  
 Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce  
 Columbia River Customs Brokers and Forwarders Assn.  
 Color Pigments Manufacturers Association, Inc.  
 CONECT – Coalition of New England Companies  
 for Trade  
 Connecticut Retail Merchants Association  
 Consumer Brands Association  
 Convenience Distribution Association  
 Corn Refiners Association  
 Cottonseed and Feed Association  
 Council of Fashion Designers of America  
 Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals  
 (CSCMP)  
 Custom Brokers & Forwarders Assn. of Northern  
 California  
 Customs Brokers & International Freight Forwarders  
 Assn. of Washington State  
 Distilled Spirits Council of the U.S.  
 Experiential Designers & Producers Association  
 Fashion Accessories Shippers Association (FASA)  
 Florida Feed Association, Inc.  
 Florida Retail Federation  
 Florida Trucking Association  
 FMI – The Food Industry Association  
 Footwear Distributors & Retailers of America (FDRA)  
 Forest Resources Association  
 Fresh Produce association of the Americas  
 Gemini Shippers Association (GEMINI)  
 Georgia Beverage Association  
 Georgia Motor Trucking Association  
 Georgia Retailers  
 Georgia Transportation Alliance  
 Glass Packaging Institute  
 Global Cold Chain Alliance  
 Grain and Feed Association of Illinois  
 Growth Energy  
 Halloween & Costume Association  
 Harbor Trucking Association  
 Hardwood Federation  
 Hazelnut Growers of Oregon  
 Hardwood Federation

Health Industry Distributors Association  
 Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association  
 Heating, Air-conditioning, & Refrigeration  
     Distributors International (HARDI)  
 Home Fashion Products Association  
 Hop Growers of America  
 Hospitality Minnesota  
 HR Policy Association  
 IAPD – the performance plastics association  
 Illinois Chamber of Commerce  
 Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association  
 Illinois Retail Merchants Association  
 Indiana Motor Truck Association  
 Indiana Retail Council  
 Institute of Makers of Explosives  
 Institute of Shortening and Edible Oils  
 Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI)  
 Intermodal Association of North America  
 International Association of Movers  
 International Bottled Water Association  
 International Council of Shopping Centers  
 International Dairy Foods Association  
 International Food Additives Council  
 International Foodservice Distributors  
     Association  
 International Franchise Association  
 International Fresh Produce Association  
 International Housewares Association  
 IWLA (International Warehouse Logistics  
     Association)  
 Juice Products Association  
 Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association  
 Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association  
 Kansas Beverage Association  
 Kansas Chamber of Commerce  
 Kansas Corn Growers Association  
 Kansas Grain and Feed Association  
 Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers Association  
 Kansas Livestock Association  
 Kentucky Grocers & Convenience Store  
     Association  
 Kentucky Propane Gas Association  
 Kentucky Retail Federation  
 Leather and Hide Council of America  
 Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce  
 Los Angeles Customs & Freight Brokers Assn.  
 Maine Beverage Association  
 Maryland Motor Truck Association  
 Maryland Retailers Association  
 Meat Import Council of America  
 Methanol Institute  
 Michigan Chamber of Commerce  
 Michigan Chemistry Council  
 Michigan Retailers Association  
 Minnesota Grain and Feed Association  
 Minnesota Retailers Association  
 Minnesota Soybean Growers Association  
 Minnesota Trucking Association  
 Mississippi Lumber Manufacturers Association  
 Mississippi Trucking Association  
 Missouri Beverage Association  
 Missouri Limestone Producers Association  
 Missouri Retailers Association  
 Missouri Tire Industry Association  
 Montana Beverage Association  
 Montana Retail Association  
 Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association (MEMA)  
 Montana Feed Association  
 National Aquaculture Association  
 National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD)  
 National Association of Egg Farmers  
 National Association of Electrical Distributors (NAED)  
 National Association of Home Builders  
 National Association of Manufacturers  
 National Association of Wheat Growers  
 National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors  
 National Cattlemen’s Beef Association  
 National Chicken Council  
 National Confectioners Association  
 National Cotton Council  
 National Cotton Ginners Association  
 National Cottonseed Products Association  
 National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
 National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)  
 National Fastener Distributors Association  
 National Fisheries Institute  
 National Grain and Feed Association  
 National Grange  
 National Grocers Association  
 National Industrial Transportation League  
 National Lumber & Building Material Dealers Association  
 National Marine Manufacturers Association  
 National Milk Producers Federation  
 National Oilseed Processors Association  
 National Onion Association  
 National Pasta Association  
 National Pecan Shellers Association

National Pork Producers Council  
 National Potato Council  
 National Propane Gas Association  
 National Restaurant Association  
 National Retail Federation  
 National Sorghum Producers  
 Natural Products Association  
 NC Retail Merchants Association  
 Nebraska Cooperative Council  
 Nebraska Retail Federation  
 Nevada Trucking Association  
 New Hampshire Retail Association  
 New Jersey Motor Truck Association  
 New Jersey Retail Merchants Association  
 New York New Jersey Foreign Freight  
     Forwarders & Brokers Association  
 North American Association of Food  
     Equipment Manufacturers (NAFEM)  
 North American Association of Utility  
     Distributors (NAAUD)  
 North American Export Grain Association  
 North American Home Furnishings  
     Association  
 North American Meat Institute  
 North American Millers' Association  
 North American Renderers Association  
 North Dakota Grain Growers Association  
 North Dakota Motor Carriers Association  
 Northeast Agribusiness and Feed Alliance  
 Northwest Horticultural Council  
 Ohio AgriBusiness Association  
 Ohio Beverage Association  
 Ohio Chamber of Commerce  
 Ohio Council of Retail Merchants  
 Ohio Soybean Association  
 Ohio Trucking Association  
 Oklahoma Beverage Association  
 Oregon Business & Industry  
 Orange County Business Council  
 Oregon Feed & Grain Association  
 Outdoor Industry Association  
 Outdoor Power Equipment Institute  
 Pacific Coast Council of Customs Brokers and  
     Freight Forwarders Assoc. – The PCC  
 Pacific Coast Renderers Association  
 Pacific Coast Seed Association  
 Pacific Egg and Poultry Association  
 Pennsylvania Retailers' Association  
 Pet Advocacy Network  
 Pet Food Institute  
 Petroleum Equipment Institute  
 Plumbing Manufacturers International  
 Portland Cement Association  
 PRINTING United Alliance  
 Promotional Products Association International (PPAI)  
 Railway Tie Association  
 Renew Kansas Biofuels Association  
 Retail Association of Maine  
 Retail Association of Nevada  
 Retail Council of New York State  
 Retail Industry Leaders Association  
 Retail Merchants of Hawaii  
 Retailers Association of Massachusetts  
 Rhode Island Trucking Association  
 RV Industry Association  
 San Diego District Customs Brokers Assn.  
 SC Retail Association  
 Shippers Coalition  
 SNAC International  
 Snowsports Industries America  
 SOCMA  
 South Carolina Trucking Association  
 South Dakota Agri-Business Association  
 South Dakota Association of Cooperatives  
 South Dakota Corn Growers Association  
 South Dakota Soybean Association  
 Southeastern Grain & Feed Association  
 Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association  
 Southern California Leadership Council  
 Soy Transportation Coalition  
 Specialty Crop Trade Council  
 Specialty Equipment Market Association  
 Specialty Soya and Grains Alliance  
 Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA)  
 Tag and Label Manufacturers Institute  
 Tea Association of the U.S.A., Inc.  
 Texas Ag Industries Association  
 Texas Association of Manufacturers  
 Texas Beverage Association  
 Texas Chemical Council  
 Texas Farm Bureau  
 Texas Grain and Feed Association  
 Texas International Produce Association  
 The Association for Dressings & Sauces  
 The Fashion Jewelry and Accessories Trade  
     Association (FJATA)  
 The Fertilizer Institute  
 The Green Coffee Association

The Sulphur Institute  
The Toy Association  
The Vinyl Institute  
Transportation Intermediaries Association (TIA)  
Travel Goods Association (TGA)  
Trucking Association of New York  
U.S. Apple Association  
U.S. Fashion Industry Association  
U.S. Meat Export Federation  
United Dairymen of Arizona  
United States Chamber of Commerce  
USA Rice  
Vinegar Institute  
Virginia Agribusiness Council  
Virginia Trucking Association

Washington Association of Wheat Growers  
Washington Retail Association  
Washington State Potato Commission  
Washington State Tree Fruit Association  
Washington Trucking Associations  
West Virginia Retailers Association  
Window & Door Manufacturers Association  
Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America  
Wine Institute  
Wisconsin Agri-Business Association  
Wisconsin Motor Carriers Association  
Wood Machinery Manufacturers of America  
Wyoming Business Alliance

CC: Secretary Marty Walsh, U.S. Department of Labor  
Secretary Pete Buttigieg, U.S. Department of Transportation  
Secretary Gina Raimondo, U.S. Department of Commerce