

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

Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association	Methanol Institute
Heating, Air-conditioning, & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI)	Michigan Chamber of Commerce
Home Fashion Products Association	Michigan Chemistry Council
Hop Growers of America	Michigan Retailers Association
Hospitality Minnesota	Minnesota Grain and Feed Association
HR Policy Association	Minnesota Retailers Association
IAPD – the performance plastics association	Minnesota Soybean Growers Association
Illinois Chamber of Commerce	Minnesota Trucking Association
Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association	Mississippi Lumber Manufacturers Association
Illinois Retail Merchants Association	Mississippi Trucking Association
Indiana Motor Truck Association	Missouri Beverage Association
Indiana Retail Council	Missouri Limestone Producers Association
Institute of Makers of Explosives	Missouri Retailers Association
Institute of Shortening and Edible Oils	Missouri Tire Industry Association
Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI)	Montana Beverage Association
Intermodal Association of North America	Montana Retail Association
International Association of Movers	Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association (MEMA)
International Bottled Water Association	Montana Feed Association
International Council of Shopping Centers	National Aquaculture Association
International Dairy Foods Association	National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD)
International Food Additives Council	National Association of Egg Farmers
International Foodservice Distributors Association	National Association of Electrical Distributors (NAED)
International Franchise Association	National Association of Home Builders
International Fresh Produce Association	National Association of Manufacturers
International Housewares Association	National Association of Wheat Growers
IWLA (International Warehouse Logistics Association)	National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors
Juice Products Association	National Cattlemen's Beef Association
Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association	National Chicken Council
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association	National Confectioners Association
Kansas Beverage Association	National Cotton Council
Kansas Chamber of Commerce	National Cotton Ginners Association
Kansas Corn Growers Association	National Cottonseed Products Association
Kansas Grain and Feed Association	National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers Association	National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)
Kansas Livestock Association	National Fastener Distributors Association
Kentucky Grocers & Convenience Store Association	National Fisheries Institute
Kentucky Propane Gas Association	National Grain and Feed Association
Kentucky Retail Federation	National Grange
Leather and Hide Council of America	National Grocers Association
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce	National Industrial Transportation League
Los Angeles Customs & Freight Brokers Assn.	National Lumber & Building Material Dealers Association
Maine Beverage Association	National Marine Manufacturers Association
Maryland Motor Truck Association	National Milk Producers Federation
Maryland Retailers Association	National Oilseed Processors Association
Meat Import Council of America	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	Washington Retail Association
Transportation Intermediaries Association (TIA)	Washington State Potato Commission
Travel Goods Association (TGA)	Washington State Tree Fruit Association
Trucking Association of New York	Washington Trucking Associations
U.S. Apple Association	West Virginia Retailers Association
U.S. Fashion Industry Association	Window & Door Manufacturers Association
U.S. Meat Export Federation	Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America
United Dairymen of Arizona	Wine Institute
United States Chamber of Commerce	Wisconsin Agri-Business Association
USA Rice	Wisconsin Motor Carriers Association
Vinegar Institute	Wood Machinery Manufacturers of America
Virginia Agribusiness Council	Wyoming Business Alliance
Virginia Trucking Association	
Washington Association of Wheat Growers	

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