

# INTERESTED PARTIES FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION

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April 18, 2012

Members of Congress  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative:

The undersigned are asking you to oppose any version of surface transportation legislation, such as HR 4348, that does not include the hazardous materials provisions contained in title IX, of HR 7.

Hazardous materials underpin our economy and are essential to our quality of life. We represent industries engaged in the production, distribution, and transportation of these materials. Collectively our member companies have operations in every state, have combined business revenues in excess of \$1 trillion, employ millions of workers, and have an enviable record of hazardous materials transportation safety and security.

The hazardous materials provisions in HR 7 address a number of reforms that will improve safety and will eliminate mismanaged earmarks as well as unnecessary regulatory burdens. These reforms address long-standing issues such as DOT's special permits and approvals program, the hazardous materials safety permit program, cargo tank wetlines, NTSB and CSB recommendations, state permitting and hazmat routing, user fees, hazmat training and handling requirements, and civil penalties. These provisions do not add to the cost of surface transportation programs.

Most of these provisions have no counterpart in S. 1813, the Senate version of this legislation. The House will be at a significant disadvantage advocating for these reforms if it goes to conference when neither the House nor the Senate bills contain policy on these matters. With no comparable provisions, these issues will not be within the scope of the conference.

We urge you to only vote for surface transportation legislation that includes these carefully crafted hazmat provisions. The House still has time to support a robust proposal that will provide the needed leverage to work with the Senate in conference to get a long-term extension of surface transportation programs with important policy changes that do not add to the cost of the legislation such as those in title IX.

Thank you for your prompt attention to our request.

Respectfully,

Agricultural Retailers Association  
American Chemistry Council

American Coatings Association  
American Pyrotechnics Association  
Association of Hazmat Shippers, Inc.  
The Chlorine Institute, Inc.  
Compressed Gas Association  
Council on Safe Transportation of Hazardous Articles  
Dangerous Goods Advisory Council  
The Fertilizer Institute  
Gamma Industry Processing Alliance  
Gases and Welding Distributors Association  
Industrial Packaging Alliance of North America  
Institute of Makers of Explosives  
International Liquid Terminals Association  
International Vessel Operators Dangerous Goods Association, Inc.  
National Association of Chemical Distributors  
The National Industrial Transportation League  
National Private Truck Council  
National Propane Gas Association  
National Tank Truck Carriers, Inc.  
Radiopharmaceutical Shippers & Carriers Conference  
Railway Supply Institute, Inc.  
PRBA-The Rechargeable Battery Association  
Reusable Industrial Packaging Association  
Sporting Arms & Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute  
Steel Shipping Container Institute  
Transportation Intermediaries Association