

## INTERESTED PARTIES FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION

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November 15, 2016

The Honorable John Thune  
Chairman  
Commerce, Science & Transportation Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Nelson  
Ranking Member  
Commerce, Science & Transportation Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Deb Fischer  
Chairman  
Surface Transportation & Merchant Marine  
Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Cory Booker  
Ranking Member  
Surface Transportation & Merchant Marine  
Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

RE: S. 3379, Surface Transportation and Maritime Security Act

Dear Chairmen Thune and Fischer and Ranking Members Nelson and Booker,

The undersigned associations want to thank you for your sponsorship of S. 3379, the Surface Transportation and Maritime Security Act (STMS Act), and urge you to report this legislation from the Commerce, Science & Transportation Committee before the end of the year.

We represent companies that are part of the nation's critical infrastructure that are engaged in security-sensitive operations. Among other things, our employees are subject to various vetting and credentialing requirements. Many of these requirements are overlapping and the redundant standards impose burdens that do nothing to improve the level of security.

There are a number of praiseworthy provisions in S. 3379. Of particular importance to us are the provisions in sections 19 and 21 of the bill. These provisions specifically address the issue of redundancy by allowing the "TWIC" (Transportation Worker Identification Credential) to satisfy vetting and credentialing requirements in other equivalent federal programs.

We do not want to lose the momentum from the introduction of this bipartisan bill. We request that you take whatever action is necessary to report this bill before the end of the year and we stand ready to work with you in support of the STMS Act and the vetting reforms in sections 19 and 21.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Retailers Association  
American Chemistry Council  
American Pyrotechnics Association  
American Short Line & Regional Railroad Association  
American Trucking Associations  
Association of American Railroads  
The Chlorine Institute  
Council on Safe Transportation of Hazardous Articles

Dangerous Goods Advisory Council  
Gases and Welding Distributors Association  
Institute of Makers of Explosives  
International Liquid Terminals Association  
International Vessel Operators Dangerous Goods Association, Inc.  
Lighter 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.  
Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association  
PRBA-The Rechargeable Battery Association  
Reusable Industrial Packaging Association  
Sporting Arms & Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute  
Transportation Intermediaries Association  
Truckload Carriers Association  
Utility Solid Waste Activities Group