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Rail Labor Division

April 27, 2017

The Honorable Donald Trump
President of the United States
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Rail Labor Division of the Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO (TTD), we write to recommend the re-nomination of Walter A. Barrows to serve as Labor Member on the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB).

The RRB administers a separate retirement and unemployment system that covers workers in the railroad industry. This unique system provides retirement, unemployment, disability and survivor benefits to more than a million active and retired rail workers who have dedicated their lives to operating, maintaining and building a safe and efficient rail system in this country. These benefits and services play a crucial role in the lives of career railroad workers and their families, and it is essential that the system remains strong and financially healthy.

To help ensure that the system protects the interests of rail workers, Section 7(a) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974, dictates that the President must nominate one candidate to the Board based on the "recommendations made by representatives of the employees." Rail labor stands united in endorsing Walter A. Barrows to continue his service as the RRB's Labor Member. Throughout his service as the Labor Member, Mr. Barrows has worked hard to maintain and improve the health and integrity of the railroad retirement and unemployment system, while also serving as a strong advocate for workers and their families who rely on the program during retirement and in times of need. Mr. Barrows enjoys the strong, unanimous support of rail labor due in no small part to his vast experience, his past successes and his continuing desire to serve. We continue to have great confidence in his service going forward.

As such, we respectfully urge you to re-nominate Walter A. Barrows to serve as Labor Member of the RRB. Thank you for your consideration.

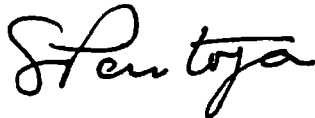
Sincerely,



F. Leo McCann
President
American Train Dispatchers Association



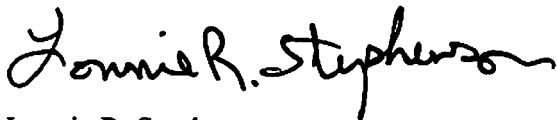
W. Dan Pickett
President
Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen



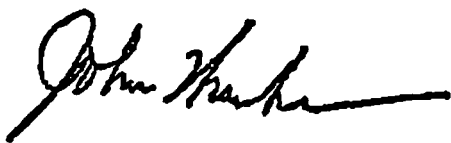
Sito Pantoja
General Vice President, Transportation
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



Newton B. Jones
International President
International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers



Lonnie R. Stephenson
International President
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



John Thacker
President
National Conference of Firemen and Oilers, SEIU




Joseph Sellers, Jr.
General President
Sheet, Metal, Air, Rail, and Transportation Workers



John Previsich
President
SMART-Transportation Division



Robert A. Scardelletti
National President
Transportation Communications Union/IAM



Gary Maslanka
International Administrative Vice President and Director, Rail Division
Transport Workers Union of America



Tim Barnes
Assistant to the President/Legislative Representative
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