



# ARC

*Alliance for  
Rail Competition*

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## **Federal News Update May 10, 2007**

### **ARC Works with Rail Customers Groups to Promote House Legislation**

As part of an ongoing effort to garner broad-based support for the recently introduced House rail competition legislation (H.R. 2125), ARC led a letter with Consumers United for Rail Equity (CURE) and the United Transportation Union (UTU) urging U.S. Representatives to co-sponsor the legislation. The legislation was introduced last week with ten original co-sponsors, in addition to House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman James Oberstar. A sample of the letter is attached with this news update.

While working on the draft of this legislation, Chairman Oberstar on several occasions asked ARC to work with other shipper groups and interested parties to secure multiple co-sponsors of his legislation. ARC continues their efforts to ensure broad-based support of the legislation.

Encl: Sample Letter to U.S. Representatives



May 8, 2007

The Honorable Neil Abercrombie  
United States House of Representatives  
1502 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-1101

Dear Congressman Abercrombie:

The two rail customer advocacy groups, the Alliance for Rail Competition (ARC) and Consumers United for Rail Equity (CURE), and one of the leading rail labor unions, the United Transportation Union (UTU), are writing to encourage you to cosponsor **H.R. 2125, the Railroad Competition and Service Improvement Act of 2007**. This legislation is critically important to ensure that rail customers have access to competitive rail service and that those rail customers without access to competition are protected from unreasonable railroad rates and practices and have access to reliable rail service.

Our membership organizations are working together in support of public policy that will ensure that rail customers benefit from the Staggers Rail Act of 1980 as intended by Congress. Re-regulation is not our intent but rather gaining access to the rail competition that was promised by that Act and the protections from railroad monopoly power that were provided in that Act.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Should you have any questions, please contact Michael Snovitch, Executive Director of ARC (202-484-7133); James Brunkenhoefer, Legislative Director of the UTU (202-543-7714); or Bob Szabo, Executive Director of CURE (202-298-1920).

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Terry Whiteside in black ink.

Terry Whiteside  
Chairman  
Alliance for Rail Competition

Handwritten signature of Paul C. Thompson in black ink.

Paul Thompson  
President  
United Transportation Union

Handwritten signature of Donald W. Kimball in black ink.

Donald W. Kimball  
President  
Consumers United for Rail Equity