



ARC

*Alliance for
Rail Competition*

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Federal News Update June 21, 2007

Cong. Baker Includes Pricing Policy Study Provision in Legislation

Cong. Richard Baker (R-LA), the original co-sponsor of H.R. 2125, successfully added a committee amendment, which mandates a study of railroad pricing policies, which force freight off the railroads onto trucks. The amendment was added during the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee mark up of the Transportation Energy Security and Climate Change Mitigation Act. The legislation aims to establish policies to conserve fossil fuels in the transportation sector, both for the purposes of energy conservation and climate change prevention. As part of the legislation, the Department of Transportation is to establish a Center for Climate Change and Environment. As a result of Cong. Baker's amendment, the Center will be required to conduct the study of railroad pricing policies and how they force freight onto less fuel-efficient trucks. This is a win for the shipper industry, as this study will provide sound evidence and highlight the national effects of the problem we already know exists.

Chairman Oberstar Remains Committed to Holding Hearing on H.R. 2125

Chairman James Oberstar is fully committed to conducting a hearing on the issues addressed in the Railroad Competition and Service Improvement Act of 2007. The hearing may take place as early as before August recess. Currently, the Chairman is in the process of collecting "horror" stories about the experience freight shippers have encountered in their dealings with the railroads. The witness list is not finalized, and the Chairman and his staff are open to "nominations" of potential witnesses. If you would like to submit a story or recommend a witness, please email the information to Mike Snovitch at mwsnovitch@railcompetition.org

List of Co-Sponsors of H.R. 2125 Continues to Grow

Meyers & Associates continues to regularly meet with members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, as well as members representing ARC interests, in an effort to secure a solid group of co-sponsors prior to the start of Congressional hearings. As a result of these meetings, eight additional co-sponsors have been secured since our last reporting, bringing the total number to 43. Those new co-sponsors include:

- Cong. Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX);
- Cong. Bob Inglis (R-SC);
- Cong. Brad Miller (D-NC);
- Cong. Cong. Ron Paul (R-TX);

- Cong. Alan Mollohan (D-WV);
- Cong. Steve Kagen (D-WI);
- Cong. Rush Holt (D-NJ);
- Cong. Robert Andrews (D-NJ).

Securing these new co-sponsors is an important step as the legislation continues to gain momentum in Congress. While their number continues to grow, we still encounter a few Representatives who are not familiar with how this issue affects businesses in their districts. They understand the issue in general, but would like to hear the stories from their constituents. This underscores the continued importance of ARC's grassroots efforts: **all shippers are encouraged to call their members of Congress and urge them to co-sponsor H.R. 2125.**

H.R. 2125 Co-Sponsors (as of June 21, 2007 – in alphabetical order)

Rep. Oberstar, James [D, MN-08]*	Rep. McNulty, Michael R. [D, NY-21]
Rep. Alexander, Rodney [R, LA-05]*	Rep. Melancon, Charlie [D, LA-03]
Rep. Andrews, Robert [D, NJ-1]	Rep. Miller, Brad [D, -NC]
Rep. Baker, Richard H. [R, LA-06]*	Rep. Mollohan, Alan [D, WV-1]
Rep. Baldwin, Tammy [D, WI-02]	Rep. Musgrave, Marilyn [R, CO-04]
Rep. Berry, Marion [D, AR-01]*	Rep. Obey, David R. [D, WI-07]
Rep. Boren, Dan [D, OK-02]	Rep. Paul, Ron [R, TX-14]
Rep. Boustany, Charles W. [R, LA-07]*	Rep. Peterson, Collin [D, MN-07]
Rep. Cubin, Barbara [R, WY-At Large]	Rep. Pomeroy, Earl [ND-At Large]*
Rep. Franks, Trent [R, AZ-02]*	Rep. Ramstad, Jim [R, MN-03]
Rep. Grijalva, Raul M. [D, AZ-07]	Rep. Rehberg, Dennis [R, MT-At Large]
Rep. Hare, Phil [D, IL-17]	Rep. Renzi, Rick [R, AZ-01]
Rep. Herseth Sandlin, Stephanie [D, SD-At Large]*	Rep. Ross, Mike [D, AR-04]
Rep. Hinojosa, Ruben [D, TX-15];	Rep. Simpson, Mike [R, ID-02]*
Rep. Hirono, Mazie K. [D, HI-02]*	Rep. Sires, Albio [D, NJ-13]
Rep. Holt, Rush [D, NJ-12]	Rep. Snyder, Vic [D, AR-02]
Rep. Inglis, Bob [R, SC-4]	Rep. Space, Zack [D, OH-18]
Rep. Jefferson, William J. [D, LA-02]	Rep. Towns, Edolphus [D, NY-10]
Rep. Jindal, Bobby [R, LA-01]	Rep. Udall, Mark [D, CO-02]
Rep. Kagen, Steve [D, WI-8]	Rep. Walz, Timothy J. [D, MN-01]*
Rep. Kind, Ron J. [D, WI-03]*	Rep. Wamp, Zach [R, TN-03]
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D, MN-04]	

* denotes original co-sponsor

Senate Update: S. 953

Three of the original co-sponsors of the Senate Railroad Competition and Service Improvement Act of 2007, Sen. Jay Rockefeller (D-WV), Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-ND), and Sen. Larry Craig (R-ID), are planning to send a letter the Senator Daniel Inouye, Chairman of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, urging him to schedule a hearing as soon as possible for S. 953. The current list of co-sponsor includes 11 Senators and is listed below.

Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT)	Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)
Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA)	Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-LA)
Sen. Larry Craig (R-ID)	Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT)
Sen. Mike Crapo (R-ID)	Sen. John Thune (R-SD)
Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-ND)	Sen. David Vitter (R-LA)
Sen. Tim Johnson (D-SD)	