



September 30, 2025

The Honorable Patrick J. Fuchs, Chairman  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street SW  
Washington, DC 20423

**Subject: Support for Union Pacific & Norfolk Southern Merger, Docket Number: FD 36873**

Dear Chairman Fuchs:

As State Representative for House District 121 in Texas, I write to offer my strong support for the proposed merger between Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern.

Freight rail has long been a driving force behind Texas's economic strength. Our state depends on efficient rail service to move energy, agricultural products, and manufactured goods to markets across the country and around the world. Union Pacific has been a trusted partner in this effort, providing reliable service that directly supports jobs and economic development in our communities.

This merger represents an opportunity to further strengthen our transportation network and deliver real benefits to Texas businesses and consumers, including:

- **Greater reliability and efficiency:** Streamlined routes will reduce service interruptions and keep goods moving on schedule.
- **Faster delivery times:** Eliminating unnecessary interchanges will help Texas companies reach markets more quickly and competitively.
- **Stronger long-term investment:** A unified transcontinental railroad will be better positioned to modernize infrastructure, advance safety, and invest in technology.
- **Expanded access to markets:** A broader rail footprint will help Texas producers and manufacturers compete and grow.

This proposal will keep our supply chains strong, reducing highway congestion, supporting economic growth, and ensuring that the U.S. freight rail system remains competitive.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Surface Transportation Board to give full and favorable consideration to this merger. The benefits will be felt not only in Texas, but across the national economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marc LaHood", is written over a horizontal line.

Marc LaHood  
State Representative, House District 121

cc: Member Schultz  
Member Hedlund