

ELI EVANKOVICH, MEMBER
54TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

E-mail: eevankov@pahousegop.com
www.RepEvankovich.com



Harrisburg Office
PO Box 202054
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2054
Office: 717.260.6129
Fax: 717.772.9869

House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

EP 711 (Sub-No. 1)

Mr. Daniel Elliott
Chairman
U.S. Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

241986

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
November 8, 2016
Part of
Public Record

OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN
2016 NOV -8 AM 10:22

Dear Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Miller and Member Begeman:

I am writing you in my capacity as Chairman of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives' Manufacturing Caucus and as State House Representative for the 54th Legislative District, which includes parts of Allegheny and Westmoreland Counties.

I am writing to convey my concern about the Surface Transportation Board's proposed railroad access regulations, which would undermine the resilience of the American economy by diminishing the strength of the rail industry.

It is critically important that businesses have reliable and uninterrupted access to efficient freight transportation to ensure products are able to compete nationally and globally.

The proposed regulations, which would require railroads to provide their competitors with access to their rail lines, would compromise the efficiency of the national rail system and slow the overall movement of goods across the nation. The fact that the competitors are not requesting such access is a sure sign that this proposal is a solution looking for a problem.

Businesses, especially small businesses, rely on swift, predictable shipping options to meet their customers' requirements. By recommending that railroads comply with these regulations, the STB is likely to jumpstart a chain reaction that constricts business activity. This is not just discriminatory toward the railroads, it is also unfair to the businesses, small and large, that form the backbone of the American economy. When those businesses suffer, so do the local communities that surround them.

I urge the board to carefully consider the potentially disruptive effects of these proposed regulations and the impact they would have on businesses across the nation. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eli Evankovich".

Eli Evankovich
State Representative
54th Legislative District

Cc: Mrs. Deb Miller, Vice Chairman U.S. Surface Transportation Board
Mrs. Ann D. Begeman, Board Member U.S. Surface Transportation Board