



September 12, 2022

**VIA EMAIL**

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
U.S. Capitol Building-Senate 221  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
U.S. Capitol Building-Senate 230  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol Building-House 222  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol Building-House 204  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leaders Schumer, McConnell, Pelosi, and McCarthy,

The National Industrial Transportation League ([NITL](#)), one of the nation's oldest trade association representing US businesses that rely on freight transportation systems to ship their industrial materials domestically and internationally, asks that Congress act to avoid a freight rail labor strike or lockout should rail labor and the railroads not be able to reach an agreement by this Friday, September 16, 2022.

NITL members are being drastically affected by such uncertainty including having to plan and prepare for possible commodity embargoes now. This is particularly difficult for NITL members who ship a wide array of commodities for manufacturing, assembling, or processing ranging from chemicals to solvents, to pulp and paper, to grains and produce, to electronics and consumer goods, to building materials and industrial applications, to health care products and safety enhancement materials. The sooner Congress acts, should the situation arise, the better it will be for shippers to deploy contingency plans including working with their customers and the communities they serve, as NITL members represent billions of dollars freight movements to our nation's economy.

The vulnerability in our nation's supply chain cannot effectively handle a freight rail work stoppage even for one day. NITL members and shippers of all sizes in all regions continue experiencing dismal freight rail service due primarily to the implementation of Precision Schedule Railroading. Any disruption in freight rail service will negatively impact our nation's international competitiveness while making inflation even worse which is affecting all Americans.

NITL urges Congress to prepare to intervene, if necessary, at the earliest possible juncture to prevent a freight rail worker stoppage of any duration.

Thank you for your leadership on this matter and your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. Nancy O'Liddy". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light gray rectangular background.

E. Nancy O'Liddy  
Executive Director  
National Industrial Transportation League  
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