

Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors

AECOM

Alameda Corridor-East
Construction Authority

Cambridge Systematics,
Inc.

Canaveral Port Authority

Cascadia Center

CenterPoint
Properties Trust

Chicago Metropolitan
Agency for Planning

City of Chicago

COMPASS – Community
Planning Association of
Southwest Idaho

Dewberry

Economic Development
Coalition of
Southwest Indiana

Florida Department of
Transportation

Florida East
Coast Railway

Florida Ports Council

Freight Mobility Strategic
Investment Board
(Washington State)

Gateway Cities Council of
Governments

HERZOG

HNTB Corporation

Illinois Soybean
Association

Intermodal Association
of North America

Jacobs Engineering

Kootenai Metropolitan
Planning Organization

Los Angeles
County Metropolitan
Transportation Authority

Majestic Realty Co.

Maricopa Association of
Governments

Memphis Chamber of
Commerce

Metropolitan
Transportation
Commission

Moffatt & Nichol

National Railroad
Construction and
Maintenance Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Goods Movement Coalition Applauds Congressman Lowenthal's Proposal to Establish Reliable Freight Funding

"The National Multimodal and Sustainable Freight Infrastructure Act" would raise an estimated \$8 billion annually for goods movement infrastructure

WASHINGTON, DC (June 26, 2017) – With infrastructure atop the bipartisan legislative priorities in Washington, the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC) applauded the recent introduction of a bill to strengthen our nation's economic competitiveness through freight infrastructure investment. As proposed, *The National Multimodal and Sustainable Freight Infrastructure Act*, or H.R. 3001 will create a 1 percent fee on the cost of transporting goods, to be paid by beneficial cargo owners, raising an estimated \$8 billion annually.

"The FAST Act's freight program remains a monumental achievement and oversubscription of the Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects Program – \$13 of requests for every \$1 available – points to the need for a robust, dedicated, and fully multimodal freight program such as the one proposed by Congressman Lowenthal," said Tim Lovain, CAGTC Chairman and Executive Vice President of Crossroads Strategies. "This proposal comes at a critical juncture, when Congress and the Administration are seeking to bolster economic competitiveness through infrastructure investment and tax reform."

Fees collected would be deposited into a Freight Trust Fund and distributed evenly through a freight formula program administered to state departments of transportation, and a freight competitive grant program available to states, regional and local government entities. Both programs are fully multimodal, allowing transportation agencies to invest in their most critical freight needs, regardless of mode.

"Congressman Lowenthal has been a tenacious advocate for multimodal freight infrastructure needs," stated CAGTC President Leslie Blakey. "Not only is his approach to freight funding thoughtful and practical, but it is modeled after an approach that has proven to be successful and efficient – the existing air freight tax. Targeted, sustained, and robust investment in our nation's freight system, as Congressman Lowenthal is proposing, is necessary to maintain the strength of American industry in a very competitive world marketplace."

Since its formation, CAGTC has supported the development of a multimodal freight-specific grant program that distributes money to meritorious projects on a competitive basis, using economically-driven criteria. A commitment to investment in goods movement and dedicated funding for a freight program is critical for America to ensure a safe, efficient, reliable, multimodal supply chain that will continue to stoke the engine of commerce and support job growth.

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About the Coalition

The Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC) is a diverse coalition of more than 60 public and private organizations dedicated to increasing federal investment in America's intermodal freight infrastructure. In contrast to single mode interests, CAGTC's main mission is to promote a seamless goods movement transportation system across all modes to enhance capacity and economic growth. For more information on the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors, please visit www.tradecorridors.org.

NASCO – North
American Strategy for
Competitiveness

The Northwest
Seaport Alliance

Nossaman LLP

Ohio Kentucky Indiana
Regional Council of
Governments

Orange County
Transportation Authority

Oregon Department of
Transportation

Parsons

Port Authority of
New York & New Jersey

Port Newark Container
Terminal

Port of Hueneme

Port of Long Beach

Port of Los Angeles

Port Miami

Port of Oakland

Port of Pittsburgh

Port of Portland, OR

Port of San Diego

Port Tampa Bay

Port of Vancouver USA

Puget Sound Regional
Council

RAILCET

SANDAG - San Diego
Association of
Governments

Southern California
Association of
Governments

Supply Chain
Innovation Network of
Chicago- SINC

Tennessee Department
of Transportation

Washington State
Department of
Transportation

West Coast Corridor
Coalition

Will County Center for
Economic Development

WSP