

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 6, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy:

As negotiations between the House of Representatives and the Senate in response to the COVID-19 outbreak continue, we ask that you consider including H.R. 7642, the Coronavirus Economic Relief for Transportation Services (CERTS) Act of 2020, in any resulting package. This legislation has strong bipartisan support in both the House and Senate.

The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted the U.S. private motorcoach, school bus and domestic passenger vessel industries with nearly 3,000 companies shutting down and almost 100,000 employees being laid off. Driving nearly 600 million passenger trips annually, these transportation industries provide for communities large and small, as well as urban and rural.

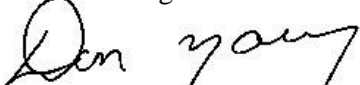
Unfortunately, none of the enacted economic relief packages in response to COVID-19 to date included provisions addressing these transportation service providers. While many transportation industries, such as Amtrak, public transit, airlines, and airports, were specifically provided for in the CARES Act, these industries were noticeably left out. We hope to rectify that oversight in this upcoming relief package.

The CERTS Act of 2020 would provide \$10 billion in emergency economic relief for these vital transportation providers, excluding air carriers, as they face significant loss of business and increased operating costs. These grants would support businesses and cover costs associated with expanded public health guidelines due to COVID-19. Additionally, this funding would help businesses retain and rehire employees who might otherwise lose their jobs as a result of decreased service.

We request that you include the CERTS Act of 2020 in the next COVID-19 response package so that much-needed relief can be delivered to critical transportation providers. We look forward to working with you to advocate for policy that will help our nation respond effectively and efficiently to the COVID-19 outbreak.

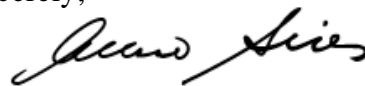


Darin LaHood  
Member of Congress



Don Young  
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



Albio Sires  
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress