

**American Association  
of Port Authorities**  
Jean Godwin  
(703) 684-5700

**American Association of  
State Highway and  
Transportation Officials**  
Leo Penne  
(202) 624-5813

**American Trucking  
Associations**  
Darrin Roth  
(703) 838-1900

**Association of  
American Railroads**  
Jennifer Macdonald  
(202) 639-2533

**Association of Metropolitan  
Planning Organizations**  
Deborah Singer  
(202) 296-7051

**Coalition for America's  
Gateways and Corridors**  
Leslie Blakey  
(202) 828-9100

**Inland Rivers Port and  
Terminals Association**  
Deidre McGowan  
(601) 352-4778

**Intermodal Association  
of North America**  
Joni Casey  
(301) 982-3400

**National Association  
of Manufacturers**  
Keith McCoy  
(202) 637-3175

**National Association of  
Waterfront Employers**  
Paul Bea  
(202) 587-4821

**The National Industrial  
Transportation League**  
John Ficker  
(703) 524-5011

**National Retail  
Federation**  
Alison O'Donnell  
(202) 626-8193

**Retail Industry  
Leaders Association**  
Paul Kelly  
(703) 841-2300

**U.S. Chamber  
of Commerce**  
Ashley Miller  
(202) 463-5834

**Waterfront Coalition**  
Robin Lanier  
(202) 861-0825

**World Shipping Council**  
Anne Kappel  
(202) 589-1235

# FREIGHT STAKEHOLDERS COALITION

July 10, 2006

The Honorable George W. Bush  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

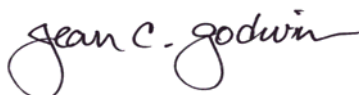
We greeted the announcement of Secretary Norman Mineta's planned retirement with conflicting sentiments. We are deeply gratified that this remarkable leader gave a record number of years to his work at the Department of Transportation and many more to his nation. However, we will miss Secretary Mineta's steady hand at the helm of the nation's transportation system to which he has contributed greatly.

Among his many accomplishments on your behalf, is his devoted attention to freight transportation, the nation's marine transportation system, and congestion reduction. Secretary Mineta, with his able executive and professional staff, has initiated in-depth efforts to address our country's many challenges in moving goods. Important steps have been taken to identify solutions to smooth intermodal connections, eliminate bottlenecks, and increase freight system capacity. Although these steps are valuable, Secretary Mineta clearly understands that much remains to be done to bring public and private sector resources to the task.

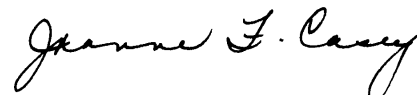
The freight industry sector, in recent years, has received the attention of policy makers in Washington but many more years of hard work are ahead to ensure that America's freight transportation system will have the physical and operational capacity on which the United States' economy relies. The Secretary's Freight Policy Framework, released in January of this year, put forth this vision: "*The United States freight transportation system will ensure the efficient, reliable, safe and secure movement of goods and support the nation's economic growth while improving environmental quality.*" Achieving that vision will require strong leadership from the head of the Department of Transportation.

The Freight Stakeholders Coalition, consisting of public and private sector transportation providers and consumers, has had the pleasure of working with your Administration on freight initiatives including the recently enacted transportation bill – SAFETEA-LU. Subsequently, we have been in frequent discussions with the Department of Transportation as to what more might be done to improve the nation's freight system. We urge that as you consider prospective nominees for Secretary of Transportation, you look for persons who are willing and able to pursue Secretary Mineta's aggressive freight mobility agenda to fruition.

Very truly yours,



Jean C. Godwin  
Co-Chair  
Freight Stakeholders Coalition



Joanne Casey  
Co-Chair  
Freight Stakeholders Coalition