



American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association

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ASLRRRA Congratulates Negotiating Parties on Positive Results

WASHINGTON, September 15, 2022 – The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRRA) congratulates the Class I carriers and rail labor unions in reaching a tentative agreement early this morning, ending the uncertainty of the past several weeks.

“Averting a strike was paramount, as a work stoppage would have produced severe ripple effects harming the entire U.S. economy. While the vast majority of short line railroads were not part of this national bargaining round, a strike would have immediately impacted our railroads and our customers, as nearly all short line customer shipments connect with Class I carriers along their journey,” said Chuck Baker, President, ASLRRRA.

“We are confident the agreement that was reached will ensure that rail employees will be well-compensated for the jobs they perform as members of the nation’s critical workforce, and that railroads will be able to retain and attract skilled and valued employees into the future. We appreciate not only the railroad and labor union negotiators that eventually got the deal done but also the involvement of the Biden Administration in producing the Presidential Emergency Board recommendations and helping to bring the parties together in the final hour.

We will celebrate this moment briefly, and then turn our attention back to railroading and providing world-class service to our customers. We call on our industry to use the momentum spurred by today's agreement to work together to solve the ongoing challenges of moving the nation's freight and returning the U.S. supply chain to pre-pandemic levels of efficiency and effectiveness for the benefit of our customers in all corners of the country. Further, we call on all parties to focus on repairing and rebuilding relationships so that future negotiations progress productively and we avoid any risk of interrupting critical freight rail operations," continued Baker.

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About ASLRRRA - The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRRA) is a non-profit trade association representing the interests of the nation's 600 short line and regional railroads and railroad supply company members in legislative and regulatory matters. Short lines operate 47,500 miles of track in 49 states, or approximately 29% of the national railroad network, touching in origination or termination one out of every five cars moving on the national railroad system, serving customers who otherwise would be cut off from the national railroad network. www.aslrra.org