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ASLRRA Commends Senate Action to Move Infrastructure Bill Forward

WASHINGTON – July 29, 2021 – Today, the Senate took action to advance the bi-partisan infrastructure proposal that includes the Surface Transportation Investment Act (STIA). The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA), representing the nation's 600 small business freight railroads and hundreds of railroad suppliers, <u>strongly supported</u> the Act following its introduction on June 10, 2021.

"We congratulate the Senate for taking this momentous step forward in advancing such a sweeping infrastructure proposal – and we applaud the spirit of bipartisanship, hard work and compromise that allowed for this moment to happen. While more details are still to come and many will be debated in the days ahead, the deal holds great promise for the short line freight rail industry, the thousands of customers we serve in critical industries such as agriculture and manufacturing throughout the country, and for America's economic future. The proposal will make key investments into programs that short line freight rail projects will be able to compete for, such as CRISI, RAISE, and INFRA, which can be transformational for short lines as they look to improve service, add capacity, enhance safety, upgrade tracks, and rehabilitate bridges to move America's freight," said Chuck Baker, President of ASLRRA.

"We urge the Senate to move swiftly to finalize and pass an infrastructure bill. We look forward to remaining engaged as the measure advances through Congress, doing whatever we can to aid policymakers in ensuring that the final infrastructure legislation supports the continued growth and economic recovery of the hundreds of environmentally sustainable small business short line freight railroads and the thousands of communities and businesses that rely on our service," continued Baker.

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About ASLRRA - The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA) 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