




RAIL
REPORT

CURE
PROMOTING RAIL COMPETITION

January 2010

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Cosponsor Update

Sen. John D. Rockefeller
(D-WV)

[Thank Sen. Rockefeller for
sponsoring S. 2889](#)

Sen. Kay Bailey
Hutchison (R-TX)

[Thank Sen. Hutchison for
cosponsoring S. 2889](#)

Sen. Frank Lautenberg
(D-NJ)

[Thank Sen. Lautenberg for
cosponsoring S. 2889](#)

Sen. John Thune (R-SD)

[Thank Sen. Thune for
cosponsoring S. 2889](#)

Sen. Byron Dorgan
(D-ND)

[Thank Sen. Dorgan for](#)

Senate Commerce Committee Passes Historic Bill

On December 18, 2009, the Senate Commerce Committee unanimously passed S. 2889, the Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act - a reform-oriented bill resulting from nine months of bipartisan negotiations involving shippers and railroads. This is the first pro-rail customer regulatory reform legislation to emerge from this committee in the 30 years since the enactment of the Staggers Rail Act of 1980.

S. 2889, championed by Senate Commerce Committee Chairman Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) and the bipartisan leadership of the Committee, is a major step forward in the long effort to obtain better public policy for captive rail customers and consumers. It contains many of the legislative remedies CURE members have long sought, including a reauthorization of the Surface Transportation Board that strengthens the board and their oversight of the railroads, and a reorientation of the STB to make it more pro-active in protecting the rights of rail customers.

The emergence from committee of S.2889 is an important step forward in the long effort to increase fairness and competition in the nation's freight rail system. CURE will continue to advocate the inclusion of strong antitrust reform provisions as S. 2889 moves toward consideration by the full Senate in 2010.

[Click here to read CURE's statement on the bill.](#)

[cosponsoring S. 2889](#)

Sen. Tim Johnson
(D-SD)

[Thank Sen. Johnson for
cosponsoring S. 146.](#)

Rep. Melissa Bean (D-IL)

[Thank Rep. Bean for
cosponsoring H.R. 233](#)

Noted and Quoted

"For a quarter of a century, I have worked to enact needed rail legislation that would provide real reform and address the shippers' problems. The bill would fix these problems and prepare our rail regulatory structure to encourage a vital, robust rail industry."

- Sen. Jay Rockefeller (D-WV),
Chairman, Senate Committee on
Commerce, Science and
Transportation, discussing S.
2889

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CURE Coalition Statements on Senate Commerce Bill

Many CURE supporters issued their own statements on the Senate Commerce Committee bill, thanking senators and consistently identifying pro-reform elements in the legislation as well as areas for additional work in the months ahead. [Click here](#) to see the range of statements from CURE members.

Mulvey New Vice Chair of STB

Francis P. Mulvey has become the new Vice Chair of the Surface Transportation Board under the annual rotation policy for that position. Until the confirmation of Chairman Dan Elliott, Dr. Mulvey served as acting Chairman of the STB. He has been a board member since 2004.

Dr. Mulvey has a long career in transportation and rail issues. He previously served as deputy assistant inspector general for rail, transit and special programs for the U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of the Inspector General. Following that position he served as staff director of the Railroad, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Dr. Mulvey.



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