

BRUCE WILLIAMSON

Majority Caucus Chairman
House District 112

Post Office Box 430
Monroe, Georgia 30655

Cell: (770) 833-4545

Email: bruce.williamson@house.ga.gov

**House of Representatives**

415 State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
(404) 656-5025

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Banks and Banking
Energy, Utilities, & Telecommunications
Ethics
Insurance
Regulated Industries
Rules
Technology & Infrastructure Innovation
Transportation
Ways & Means

October 23, 2025

Docket Number FD 36873

310241

The Honorable Patrick Fuchs, Chairman The
Honorable Michelle Schultz, Vice Chair The
Honorable Karen Hedlund, Member Surface
Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW Washington,
D.C. 20423

ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
November 13, 2025
Part of
Public Record



RE: Docket Number FD 36873 – Concerns Regarding the Proposed Union Pacific–Norfolk Southern Merger

Dear Chairman Fuchs, Vice Chair Schultz, and Member Hedlund:

As a pro-business member of the Georgia General Assembly and House Majority Caucus Chair, I write to express serious concern about the proposed merger between Union Pacific (UP) and Norfolk Southern (NS). While I strongly support private-sector investment and innovation, this consolidation risks undermining the very market competition that drives efficiency, lowers costs, and sustains American economic growth.

If approved, the combined UP-NS system would control nearly 45 percent of U.S. rail tonnage and hold dominant market share across key industries—chemicals, metals, lumber, motor vehicles, crushed stone, and food products. Such concentration would reduce transportation choices for shippers, drive up costs for manufacturers and farmers, and ultimately raise prices for consumers.

As a legislator who consistently champions free enterprise and fair competition, I am deeply troubled that this merger could leave many American businesses—particularly those in smaller communities—without viable rail alternatives. The result would be a new generation of captive customers facing higher costs, service disruptions, and diminished access to markets.

The impact on Georgia would be especially significant. Norfolk Southern's headquarters in Atlanta supports thousands of high-quality jobs, and any adverse effects on its operations could ripple through our state's economy.

I respectfully urge the Board to scrutinize this merger carefully and ensure that any approved transaction clearly enhances competition, protects service quality, and supports a robust and reliable freight rail system that serves all Americans—not just a few dominant carriers.

Sincerely,

Bruce Williamson

Georgia State Representative, District 112
House Majority Caucus Chair