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**THE SENATE
STATE OF ARKANSAS**

VICE CHAIR:
INSURANCE & COMMERCE

CO-VICE CHAIR:
ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MEMBER:
REVENUE & TAXATION
RULES, RESOLUTIONS & MEMORIALS
JOINT RETIREMENT & SOCIAL SECURITY

October 9, 2025

The Honorable Patrick J. Fuchs
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

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

Dear Chairman Fuchs:

I am writing to express my support for the proposed merger between Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern. Rail infrastructure is vital to economic growth and serves as a backbone for development, employment, and sustained stability. This proposed merger will offer enhanced reliability in service, increased capacity, and more resilient supply chains.

As a state senator, I have worked on measures to strengthen Arkansas's economy, including bills that expand workforce training and improve infrastructure investment. With this merger, Union Pacific will continue to position western Arkansas as a logistics and manufacturing hub, making our region more competitive for new industries and jobs. This merger will also create a supportive system for farmers, small businesses, and major employers.

Thank you for your time and attention in this matter. I respectfully ask you to give the Union Pacific-Norfolk Southern merger every consideration. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JB", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Justin Boyd
State Senator
District 27