

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

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January 9, 2026

Mr. Patrick J. Fuchs
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

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Dear Chairman Fuchs and the Members of the Board:

It is my privilege to recommend Brenntag North America's Matthew Fridley for a seat on the Surface Transportation Board's Rail Shipper Transportation Advisory Council (RSTAC). With 23 years of experience in the chemical distribution industry—including nearly a decade at Brenntag North America, where he serves as Vice President of Government Affairs—Mr. Fridley possesses a profound understanding of the logistical complexities underlying our nation's economy.

Brenntag is an essential pillar of Colorado's 8th Congressional District and the American industrial landscape, operating 118 facilities across 42 states. My district is one of the top oil and natural gas producing areas in the country, and Brenntag's chemical distribution services are critical to the energy dominance infrastructure in the community I represent. As the largest chemical distributor in the world, the company manages a vast array of supply chains, utilizing a sophisticated network of trucking, vessel, and rail operations to move products that are critical to American manufacturing and public health.

What makes Mr. Fridley's perspective uniquely valuable to RSTAC is the specific nature of Brenntag's rail footprint. Despite the company's global scale, they function as a small rail shipper within the United States, with only about 70 facilities maintaining direct rail connectivity. This allows Mr. Fridley to offer a rare, dual-lens insight:

- **Enterprise Knowledge:** He has access to the high-level data and resources of a global logistics leader.
- **Small-Shipper Advocacy:** He understands the specific operational hurdles and service needs of smaller-volume rail users who must navigate a complex transportation marketplace.

I am confident that Mr. Fridley's ability to balance these perspectives will make him a highly effective member of the RSTAC, ensuring that the Council's discussions are informed by both technical expertise and practical, on-the-ground experience.

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation. If you have questions or require additional information do not hesitate to contact me or Tyler Moore, my Chief of Staff.

Sincerely,



Gabe Evans
Member of Congress