

BEFORE THE RAIL ENERGY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NOMINATION

Eugene J. Koprowski, Esq. 409 North McKinley Avenue Champaign, Illinois 61821 USA Tel: 1-217-766-7763 E: genek@alumni.uchicago.edu

August 18, 2026

Surface Transportation Board Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No. 2) Washington, D.C.

Re: Self-Nomination for RETAC Vacancy — Biofuel Feedstock Growers/Providers and Biofuel Refiners, Processors, and Distributors

Dear Members of the Board:

I write to nominate myself for the vacancy on the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC) representing biofuel feedstock growers or providers and biofuel refiners, processors, and distributors, as noticed in the Board's decision dated August 18, 2026 (Docket No. EP 670, Sub-No. 2).

1. Candidate Information

Eugene J. Koprowski, Esq. 409 North McKinley Avenue Champaign, Illinois 61821 USA Tel: 1-217-766-7763 Email: genek@alumni.uchicago.edu

2. Interest to Be Represented

I am a small-scale agricultural landowner in Champaign, Illinois, where I hold farmland actively used for the cultivation of corn. That corn is sold directly to ethanol producers, placing me squarely within the category of biofuel feedstock growers and providers that RETAC is designed to represent. Rail transportation is central to the efficient movement of both raw feedstock and finished ethanol throughout the supply chain, and I have a direct, material interest in the policy issues RETAC addresses — including rail performance, capacity constraints, and infrastructure coordination between feedstock suppliers, railroads, and biofuel processors -- and subject matter expertise which will facilitate my work on the panel.

3. Summary of Experience and Qualifications

Beyond my role as a feedstock grower, I bring to RETAC an unusually deep background in biofuels journalism, policy analysis, and public commentary spanning more than three decades. My reporting and commentary on biofuels, ethanol, and biomass have tracked the industry from its earliest developmental stages through its current role in geopolitical and climate policy debates. Because many of my early 1990s articles were published in print-era outlets not yet digitized in open web archives, my documented work appears prominently through academic citations, book listings, and policy statements.

Academic and Research Citations: My work has been cited in research literature associated with

the International Energy Agency (IEA) Bioenergy program, specifically in studies regarding the current state of fuel ethanol commercialization. Those writings analyzed the technological hurdles facing alternative fuels and identified the milestones required for fuel cell and zero-emission vehicle platforms to become commercially viable alongside corn ethanol.

Public Policy Work: While serving as a public policy researcher at the Heartland Institute, a free-market think tank, I authored and coordinated media and policy analysis on green energy economics. My work was prominently cited in the organization's institutional response to the Pope's environmental address before the U.S. Congress, in which my team and I examined the economic feasibility of rapidly transitioning developing nations away from fossil fuels toward solar, wind, biomass, and corn-based ethanol mixtures. I have also participated in public media debates on fossil fuel independence, frequently highlighting the infrastructure paradox facing alternative energy adoption — namely, that electric vehicles and alternative fuel processing facilities often remain dependent on the traditional coal and hydrocarbon grid to function.

Broadcast Journalism: As a writer and producer for *TechnoPolitics*, a nationally broadcast PBS television series in the 1990s, I documented the earliest federal policy shifts toward alternative energies. My episodes covered the initial federal push toward corn ethanol mandates and the early chemical engineering research necessary to convert raw agricultural biomass into usable transportation fuel — work that laid the informational groundwork for public understanding of the ethanol supply chain that RETAC now helps govern.

This combination of hands-on experience as a corn grower supplying the ethanol market and multi-decade expertise in biofuel policy, economics, and technology positions me to contribute substantively to RETAC's mission of providing independent, candid advice to the Board.

4. Willingness to Serve

I am fully willing and available to serve as a member of RETAC, including attending the Committee's meetings in Washington, D.C., or virtually as scheduled, for the three-year term ending September 30, 2029.

5. Representative Capacity

I affirm that I agree to serve on RETAC in a representative capacity, consistent with the Board's membership requirements and applicable guidance from the Office of Management and Budget.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination. I welcome any questions and can be reached at the contact information listed above.

Respectfully submitted,

Eugene J. Koprowski, Esq. 409 North McKinley Avenue Champaign, Illinois 61821 USA

GENE KOPROWSKI, ESQ.

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DOB: September 5, 1965

POLICY COUNSEL

Highly skilled legal professional with a **successful record of leading impactful legal research, regulatory compliance planning on the latest tax regulations, strategic risk management**, and delivering exceptional analysis and advice for private and corporate clients, including the FDA, and the U.S. Army Medical Command, professional athletes and European league pro basketball teams, and three-year appointment as adjudicator of condominium and co-op law in a county government housing tribunal. Technical expert in legal research, policy analysis, and legal risk management, including use of Westlaw and Lexis-Nexis legal database software, with AI search.

CORE PROFICIENCIES

Legal Research | Legal Writing | Regulatory Compliance Review | Legal Strategy | Arbitration & Mediation

-Proficient in drafting briefs, legal memoranda, and predictive and persuasive legal analysis. Experienced in complex analysis involving regulatory change, government relations, and corporate governance. Adept at leveraging advanced software, including AI tools, to analyze emerging legal questions. Expert in compliance frameworks involving arbitration, contract law for sports, health law, tax, privacy, data retention, governance, AML rules, the UK Bribery Act, the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, and DOJ Compliance Program Guidelines, and business immigration law.

-Completed barrister mini-pupillage, barrister mentorship, and short-term IP counsel trainee programs over the course of two years at some of the world's leading law firms and barristers' chambers: Gatehouse Chambers, London; 4 Pump Court Barristers Chambers, London; Bird and Bird, London; Shepherd + Wedderburn, Glasgow, Scotland; Morrison & Foerster, Washington, D.C.

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Administrative Law Judge/Hearing Panel Chairman

Montgomery County Maryland Government, Commission on Common Ownership Communities, Administrative Hearings Department, Binding Arbitration Tribunal — March 2024–July 2026

Arbitrate housing and contract law cases, ensuring impartial and efficient resolution of condominium and cooperative association disputes. Appointed to a limited term by as arbitration panel chairman by the County Executive and confirmed unanimously by the Housing Commission. Role is equivalent to Chief Administrative Law Judge under Maryland law. Montgomery County is the state's most populous county and home to NIH, FDA, and NIST. Hearings and conferences are held monthly, primarily online, by Zoom, and cases are informed and adjudicated based on local, Montgomery County ordinances, state statutes., U.S. fair housing law and federal environmental protection regulations.

ADR Practitioner + Policy Counsel

The Arbitration Centre, PLLC — 2020–Present (Washington, D.C.)

Certified arbitrator with the arbitration panels of FINRA, the Neutrals Panel of the American Health Law Association (AHLA), adjudicating disputes involving hospital and insurance billing and coverage, and the contract law panel of Dubai International Arbitration Center (DIAC), as well as the Commercial Court of Qatar, and the Bahrain International Commercial Court. Draft legal research briefs and memoranda with emphasis on predictive and persuasive analysis for tax planning and regulatory compliance. Expert in Westlaw, LexisNexis, and AI-enabled legal research. Specialized knowledge of U.S. law, financial regulations, AML, financial crimes, anti-corruption rules, legal ethics, health law, sports law, and arbitration. Licensed arbitrator, mediator, conciliator, and arbitration counsel by the Maryland Judiciary. Certified mediator for small claims, Florida Supreme Court.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Negotiate with IRS, SEC, FCA, FIBA, and other regulators on tax, investment management, financial planning, and filings (Form D, Form ADV, blue sky filings, IRS Forms 990, 1065, K-1, 1120, 1023).
- Contract negotiations for athletes for free-agent slots with the NBA G-League (e.g. Grand Rapids Gold) and Rivals Football League teams in Michigan, Florida, and Texas and European basketball teams/FIBA.

PRIOR ON-THE-JOB LEGAL TRAINING
MAJOR LAW FIRMS AND BARRISTERS CHAMBERS

-Gatehouse Chambers, London — Barrister Mentorship

Weekly training in English law, pleadings, and litigation strategy with a top-20 London barrister.

-4 Pump Court, London — Barrister Mini-Pupillage

Assisted in High Court (King's Bench) fraud litigation; contributed to successful summary judgment.

-Bird & Bird, London — Trainee Lawyer

Drafted legal documents and conducted research, including trademark infringement matters.

-Shepherd + Wedderburn, Glasgow — Trainee Lawyer

Advised on whiskey trademark disputes; drafted legal correspondence and pre-action materials.

-Morrison & Foerster, Washington, D.C. — Trainee IP Lawyer

Conducted prior art analysis and drafted patent claims for medical device innovations.

PRIOR MILITARY AND GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE

-Cabinet-Rank Commissioner, Medicare, Medicaid & Social Security Disability, Commonwealth of Virginia (2010–2014).; Assistant to the Governor-Elect, Health Care Policy Team, Gov. Robert F. McDonnell Transition (November 2009–January 2010).

-Commissioned Naval Officer, U.S. Navy, Lieutenant (O-3), 2000–2009. PAO on special duty at NATO and CHINFO.

-Commissioned Officer, (O-4 Select) Certified Military Ethics Counselor, Advising Adjutant General and Governor, Michigan Defense Force, a unit of the Michigan National Guard/Air National Guard, 2024 to Present.

-Selected as a member of an advisory panel for U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Brooke Rollins. Term begins in fall 2026, part-time advisory on science policy and regulation.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

-Law Degree., Thomas Jefferson School of Law, *Summa Cum Laude* (ABA-Accredited), 2011

-BA, Journalism, Northwestern University, with Columbia College courses, *Cum Laude*, 1987

-MA, Humanities, The University of Chicago, *Cum Laude*, 2005

-Professional Diploma in International Business Law, King's College School of Law, University of London and *Institutia Empressa (IE) Law School*, Madrid (2024–2025)

-Professional Master's Degree, *Máster en Medicina y Cirugía Equina, Tech Universidad, Espana* (2027). Training and diagnosis for equine medicine and surgery speciality, online and in-person clinicals at University of Illinois Veterinary Hospital, Champaign; and Thal Equine Veterinary Hospital, Santa Fe, N.M.

-Chinese Medicine Practitioner/Physician Diploma. Awarded by Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, Wanjing Hospital, China Academy of Chinese Medical Science, et al: Mandarin Transliteration Jainxi Zhongishi:(2008). TCM diagnosis, and therapies, including acupuncture, moxibustion, and massage, online and in-person clinicals.

FEDERAL, STATE & INTERNATIONAL BAR ADMISSIONS

- Licensed Legal Practitioner/Arbitrator/Mediator, **State of Maryland Judiciary, Annapolis, Md.**
- Licensed Attorney, **Qatar International Commercial Court**, Doha, Qatar
- Registered Attorney, **U.S. Immigration Court**, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington D.C.
- Registered Attorney, U.S. Customs and Immigration Service (USCIS)
- Registered Out-of-State Attorney, West Virginia Bar/Supreme Court
- Appeals Attorney, Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB), Washington D.C.
- Attorney Registered to Practice before the IRS
- Registered Attorney, U.S. Department of Labor, Office of the Chief Administrative Law Judge

Notable Private Clients: Pfizer | Microsoft | Facebook | Best Buy | FDA | NASA | U.S. Army | KPMG | Gartner | Andersen Consulting | Performing Artists & Athletes

MAJOR MEDIA EXPERIENCE

Senior Writer/Producer — Washington, D.C. & New York City, 1984-2020

National columnist and senior producer covering business news for PBS, Fox News, Forbes, UPI, WSJ, Investors Business Daily, Asia Times (Bangkok), and Washington Technology/ Washington Post. Emmy Award Nominee (2008). Three-time Telly Award winner for documentary production. Interviewed Vice President Gore, President Obama, Vice President Cheney, CIA Directors Woolsey and Turner, and NSA Director Odom, USTR Mickey Cantor, White House economic Advisor Laura Tyson, FCC Chairman Reed Hundt, Federal Reserve Board Member Larry Lindsey. Protege of Neal B. Freeman, formerly William F. Buckley's Firing Line Producer. (1984-2020). Protege of Esther T. Smith, founder of Washington Technology, and part of senior editorial team which facilitated the paper's acquisition by the The Washington Post.

POLITICAL & PUBLIC AFFAIRS EXPERIENCE

- Delegate for Alexandria, Va. District, Republican Party of Virginia Convention (2012)
- County Chairman, Illinois for Bobby Kennedy (2023–2024)
- Whip, RNC Chairman Re-Election Campaign of Michael Steele (2010–2011)
- Special Assistant to the RNC Chairman Steele (2009–2011)
- Midwest Finance Chair, McDonnell for Governor (2009)
- Chairman, Isaac Hayes for Congress (2010)
- Chairman, Illinois Republican Assembly (2007–2008)
- Speechwriter, Ed Motley for Sheriff (2009)
- Alternate Delegate, Republican National Convention for Steve Forbes (1996)

- Campaign Manager, multiple congressional and RNC state delegate campaigns.
- Deputy District Director, McCain/Palin Campaign, Milwaukee County, WI (2008)
- Senior Advisor, Roni Bell Sylvester for Governor of Colorado (2014)
- Founder & President, Log Cabin Republicans of Springfield, Illinois (Jan. 2025–2026)
- Deputy Campaign Director for Central Illinois, RFK Jr./Bobby Kennedy for President, 2023-2024
- Volunteer Lawyer, Lawyers for Trump, October-November 2024, Grand Rapids Absentee Vote Counting Center., Michigan