

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 2, 2019

The Honorable Ann D. Begeman  
Chairman  
U.S. Surface Transportation Board  
395 E St., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20423

The Honorable Patrick J. Fuchs  
Vice Chairman  
U.S. Surface Transportation Board  
395 E St., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20423

The Honorable Martin J. Oberman  
Member  
U.S. Surface Transportation Board  
395 E St., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20423

Dear Chairman Begeman, Vice Chairman Fuchs, and Member Oberman:

We write to express our strong support for the Texas Central proposal to deploy a state-of-the-art high-speed rail system to connect Houston and Dallas. In the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress, Members indicated their support for this investor-led project through letters sent to the Surface Transportation Board (STB), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and to U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Secretary Chao. In the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress, we will continue to encourage each to move expeditiously to process the regulations needed for the Project to move forward.

We understand that Texas Central has petitioned the STB to assert its jurisdiction and reopen proceedings regarding authority over that project. Texas Central and Amtrak have announced that they have agreed to terms on a joint ticketing agreement, which establishes the requisite interstate network connections to bring the proposed high-speed rail system under the Board's jurisdiction.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can answer any questions related to our support for this important infrastructure project to the State of Texas.

Sincerely,

  
Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Member of Congress

  
Colin Z. Allred  
Member of Congress

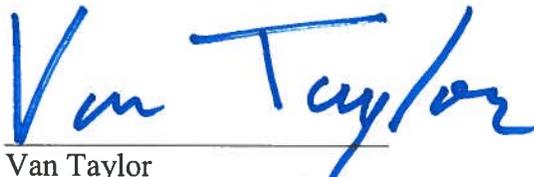
  
John R. Carter  
Member of Congress

  
Kay Granger  
Member of Congress

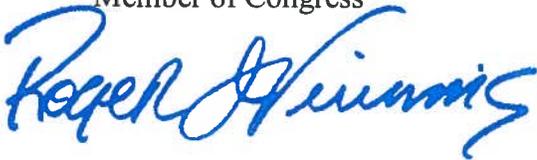
  
Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress

  
Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress

  
Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress

  
Van Taylor  
Member of Congress

  
Lance Gooden  
Member of Congress

  
Roger Williams  
Member of Congress