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April 17, 2008

The Honorable Richard Anderson
Harrison County Judge
200 West Houston, Room 314
Marshall, Texas 75670

Dear Judge Anderson:

Thank you for updating me on the progress that has been made in the establishment of a regional coalition to improve passenger and freight rail service within the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas. I appreciate the efforts of all involved to address the transportation needs of the region and the nation.

It is not difficult to see that our nation is in a serious transportation infrastructure crisis, and that it is something we collectively as a nation need to understand and work together to improve. We cannot be a successful nation with our infrastructure falling apart and now is the time for serious consideration of what our current situation is and what our future needs are going to be. The efforts of this coalition are an opportunity for all the stakeholders, through a common relationship, to develop a plan for an improved rail system in the region.

Again, I thank you for your efforts to foster cooperation in order to address this very important economic development issue. Please do not hesitate to let me know if I may be of any assistance.

Sincerely,



MARION BERRY
Member of Congress