



"We Move America"

# Transport Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO

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## LEGISLATIVE ALERT

### The Transport Workers Union Urges Members of Congress to Support the FAST Act (HR 22)

December 3, 2015

Dear Member of Congress:

The Transport Workers Union (TWU) urges you to support the "Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act" (the FAST Act). This \$305 billion, five-year bill is a bipartisan achievement that makes important strides in funding our infrastructure system, improving safety and boosting our national economy. TWU thanks Chairman Shuster, Ranking Member DeFazio, Chairman Inhofe, Ranking Member Boxer and Sen. Brown for their leadership and tenacity in forging the first long-term surface transportation reauthorization in ten years.

The FAST Act significantly increases transit and highway spending over five years and provides \$8 billion in grants to Amtrak. Public transit spending will increase by 18 percent, with an 89 percent jump in dedicated bus funding. These funding levels will allow public transit agencies to make long overdue investments to reduce traffic congestion and improve safety.

The bill makes much needed transit safety reforms. It directs the Federal Transit Administration to issue a rulemaking to mitigate assaults on bus drivers. It mandates a public transportation safety report, which will include an evaluation of scheduling to allow transit operators access to restrooms during their shifts. The FAST Act also has an evenhanded transit public-private partnership provision, which avoids heavy handed privatization mandates.

House and Senate negotiators have reached agreement on legislation that will improve our national economy and create thousands of jobs. The bill avoids divisive rollbacks of worker rights and instead increases workplace protections for many transportation workers.

TWU urges members of Congress to support the FAST Act (HR 22).

Sincerely,

**Brendan Danaher**  
Director of Government Affairs

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