



CO-CHAIRS

DOUG WHITLEY

MICHAEL CARRIGAN

September 26, 2007

The Honorable Richard Durbin  
U.S. Senator  
525 South Eighth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703

Dear Senator Durbin:

On behalf of the Transportation for Illinois Coalition, we would like to express our support for Senator Jim Oberstar's National Highway System Bridge Reconstruction Initiative.

Senator Oberstar's initiative is an important step in improving the nation's overall transportation infrastructure, and we applaud his efforts to bring this issue to the forefront. TFIC members recognize the necessity of maintaining our bridge network, as well as our transportation infrastructure as a whole. In light of recent events, such as the tragedy of the Minneapolis bridge collapse, we as a nation must support efforts to remedy our bridge infrastructure shortcomings. The tragedy in Minneapolis illustrates the consequences of continuing to ignore the growing need of capital investment in transportation.

As we look to the future in Illinois, we must invest not only in bridge maintenance, but also in all other aspects of our transportation infrastructure. Senator Oberstar's initiative is a clear step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Michael Carrigan  
President, Illinois AFL-CIO  
TFIC Co-Chair

Douglas Whitley  
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce  
TFIC Co-Chair