



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Jan Schakowsky
Congresswoman
5533 N. Broadway St.
Chicago, IL 60640-9202

Dear Congresswoman Schakowsky:

We are writing to urge your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

Less than 35 percent of ports are currently at the widths and depths for which they are authorized. A loss of each foot of depth on the Mississippi River costs \$1 million per ship per day. Looking at this another way, an additional inch of draft (or depth) allows a ship to transport an additional 36 John Deere tractors, 9,600 laptop computers, 358,000 pounds of wheat or 1,540 55-inch televisions. The more a ship can carry, the less the transportation cost for each item and the more competitive we are.

TFIC's goal, and we hope it's a goal you share, is to upgrade this all-important water transport infrastructure so that Illinois' and the nation's economies can continue to benefit from inexpensive and efficient transportation of bulk goods. If you haven't already signed on to the RAMP Act, please do so. And also ask your leadership to push for its passage.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Kleinik
TFIC co-chair
Director, Chicago Laborers-LMCC

Doug Whitley
TFIC co-chair
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Danny Davis
Congressman
3333 W. Arthington St., Ste. 130
Chicago, IL 60624

Dear Congressman Davis:

We are writing to urge your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Sincerely,

Michael D. Kleinik
TFIC co-chair
Director, Chicago Laborers-LMCC

Doug Whitley
TFIC co-chair
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Mike Quigley
Congressman
3742 W. Irving Park Rd
Chicago, IL 60618

Dear Congressman Quigley:

We are writing to urge your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Michael D. Kleinik
TFIC co-chair
Director, Chicago Laborers-LMCC

Doug Whitley
TFIC co-chair
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Bobby Rush
Congressman
700-706 E. 79th St.
Chicago, IL 60619

Dear Congressman Rush:

We are writing to urge your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Michael D. Kleinik
TFIC co-chair
Director, Chicago Laborers-LMCC

Doug Whitley
TFIC co-chair
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Don Mazullo
Congressman
415 S. Mulford Rd.
Rockford, IL 6108

Dear Congressman Manzullo:

We are writing to urge your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Michael D. Kleinik
TFIC co-chair
Director, Chicago Laborers-LMCC

Doug Whitley
TFIC co-chair
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Judy Biggert
Congresswoman
6262 S. Route 83, Ste. 305
Willowbrook, IL 60527

Dear Congresswoman Biggert:

We are writing to thank you for your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Michael D. Kleinik
TFIC co-chair
Director, Chicago Laborers-LMCC

Doug Whitley
TFIC co-chair
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Jerry Costello
Congressman
144 Lincoln Place Ct., Ste.4
Belleville, IL 62221

Dear Congressman Costello:

We are writing to thank you for your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Director, Chicago Laborers-LMCC

Doug Whitley
TFIC co-chair
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Bob Dold
Congressman
650 Dundee Rd., Ste. 380
Northbrook, IL 60062

Dear Congressman Dold:

We are writing to thank you for your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Michael D. Kleinik
TFIC co-chair
Director, Chicago Laborers-LMCC

Doug Whitley
TFIC co-chair
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Luis Gutierrez
Congressman
2201 W. North Ave.
Chicago, IL 60647

Dear Congressman Gutierrez:

We are writing to thank you for your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Michael D. Kleinik
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Doug Whitley
TFIC co-chair
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Randy Hultgren
Congressman
1797 State St., Ste. A
Geneva, IL 60134

Dear Congressman Hultgren:

We are writing to thank you for your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Director, Chicago Laborers-LMCC

Doug Whitley
TFIC co-chair
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Jesse Jackson Jr.
Congressman
17926 S. Halsted
Homewood, IL 60430

Dear Congressman Jackson:

We are writing to thank you for your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Doug Whitley
TFIC co-chair
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Tim Johnson
Congressman
2004 Fox Drive
Champaign, IL 61820

Dear Congressman Johnson:

We are writing to thank you for your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Michael D. Kleinik
TFIC co-chair
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Doug Whitley
TFIC co-chair
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Adam Kinzinger
Congressman
2701 Black Rd., Ste. 201
Joliet, IL 60435

Dear Congressman Kinzinger:

We are writing to thank you for your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Doug Whitley
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April 12, 2012

The Honorable Dan Lipinski
Congressman
6245 S. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

Dear Congressman Lipinski:

We are writing to thank you for your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Doug Whitley
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President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



April 12, 2012

The Honorable Bobby Schilling
Congressman
3000 41st St., Ste. 2
Moline, IL 61265

Dear Congressman Schilling:

We are writing to thank you for your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Doug Whitley
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April 12, 2012

The Honorable Peter Roskam
Congressman
150 S. Bloomingdale Rd., #200
Bloomingdale, IL 60108

Dear Congressman Roskam:

We are writing to thank you for your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Doug Whitley
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April 12, 2012

The Honorable Aaron Schock
Congressman
100 N.E. Monroe, Room 100
Peoria, IL 61602

Dear Congressman Schock:

We are writing to thank you for your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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Doug Whitley
TFIC co-chair
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April 12, 2012

The Honorable John Shimkus
Congressman
240 Regency Centre
Collinsville, IL 62234

Dear Congressman Shimkus:

We are writing to thank you for your support for the Realizing America's Maritime Promise Act (HR 104), which will ensure that Harbor Maintenance Tax monies are spent as they were intended on port improvements that will enhance our inland waterway transportation network. As you know, Illinois is well situated to take advantage of prime water transportation networks, and our economy benefits tremendously from water transport when it is reliable and efficient. Unfortunately, because Harbor Maintenance Tax funds have on occasion been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, our ports are not in as good a state of repair as they should be.

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April 12, 2012

The Honorable Joe Walsh
Congressman
50 E. Grand Ave.
Fox Lake, IL 60073

Dear Congressman Walsh:

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