



January 13, 2025

The Honorable Ted Cruz
Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science
And Transportation
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science
and Transportation
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Cruz and Ranking Member Cantwell,

On behalf of the Institute of Makers of Explosives (IME), I write in support of the nomination for Mr. Sean Duffy to be Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

Mr. Duffy's extensive background in government, serving as both a district attorney and a member of Congress, along with his bipartisan approach to solving key policy issues, makes him well positioned to lead the DOT.

The commercial explosives industry, including manufacturers, distributors and users, is vital to the U.S. economy, contributing more than \$19 billion annually to the U.S. economy and creating 15,000 direct industry jobs and more than 60,000 total jobs. Our industry relies on all modes of transportation, including rail, truck, water, and air, to move products safely and securely, not just nationwide, but throughout the world.

If confirmed, we believe Mr. Duffy's experience will help modernize our nation's transportation and infrastructure to drive economic growth, create jobs and develop a resilient transportation network that moves essential products like commercial explosives in a safe, timely and efficient manner.

I strongly encourage the committee to approve Mr. Sean Duffy for the position of Secretary of the DOT and favorably report his nomination to the full Senate for confirmation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Clark Mica', written in a cursive style.

J. Clark Mica
President