

## **Transport Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO**

John Samuelsen International President Alex Garcia International Executive Vice President Jerome Lafragola International Secretary-Treasurer

**Curtis Tate** International Administrative Vice President

**Mike Mayes** International Administrative Vice President

## **"AMERICA'S FIGHTING DEMOCRATIC UNION"**

November 2, 2023

Dear Representative,

On behalf of more than 155,000 members of the Transport Workers of America (TWU), I write to urge you to <u>vote NO</u> on final passage of H.R. 4820, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024. This legislation would gut vital investments in our national infrastructure and destroy thousands of good, union jobs.

Infrastructure investments are essential to our economy. The speed and reliability that people, cargo, and information can move will determine how competitive American workers will be over the next century. The rest of the world has recognized this economic reality and is prioritizing their investments in physical infrastructure: China is spending \$1.8 trillion in new construction this year; the E.U. has doubled their government spending on building and maintaining infrastructure projects. While the rest of the world is increasing infrastructure investments, H.R. 4820 would cut transportation investments by \$7 billion a year.

These cuts would have immediate, devastating effects on our transportation systems. The proposed 64% cut in federal funding for Amtrak (including a 92% cut to the Northeast Corridor) and 54% cut to the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure Safety and Investment Grants program would destroy ongoing investments in century-old bridges and tunnels across the country, as well as significantly reduce service. Eliminating \$2.2 billion for the Capital Investment Grants program would halt hundreds of major transportation projects across the country, killing jobs and destroying Americans' access to safe, efficient transportation options.

H.R. 4820 would severely undermine our transportation systems and our economy. The TWU strongly opposes this bill and we urge you to **vote NO on H.R. 4820**.

Sincerely,

John Samuelson President