

**STATEMENT OF CHRISTOPHER P. BERTRAM**  
**NOMINEE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**FOR BUDGET AND PROGRAMS AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**  
**BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION**  
**July 29, 2009**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Senator Hutchison and Members of the Committee. It is a great honor for me to appear before you today as the President's nominee for the position of Assistant Secretary of Budget and Programs and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) at the Department of Transportation.

The Department of Transportation's annual budget exceeds \$70 billion. This funding supports programs designed to improve transportation safety, modernize the country's infrastructure, and improve the operation of transportation systems. As Assistant Secretary and CFO, one of my top priorities would be to ensure that this funding is managed as effectively as possible so the taxpayers can be assured that their government is investing their transportation dollars wisely.

If confirmed, I look forward to working closely with the Congress on the many important transportation challenges facing our country including the modernization of the air traffic control system, the reauthorization of the Department's surface transportation programs, and improving transportation safety.

Finally, I would like to thank the members and staff of this Committee for the opportunity to have worked with them over the last six years on important and interesting issues and legislation. This Committee has improved the nation's transportation systems and promoted the safety of the traveling public and I will always appreciate having played a supporting part in your many legislative accomplishments.

I will be happy to respond to any questions.

Thank you.