



**State Representative**

House District 1  
Wayne County

**Ron Amstutz**  
Speaker Pro Tempore

**Committees**

Rules & Reference - Chairman  
Ways & Means  
Public Utilities  
Ohio Constitutional Modernization -  
Co-Chairman

January 15, 2016

The Honorable Daniel R. Elliott III  
Chairman  
United States Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

The Honorable Ann D. Begeman  
Vice Chairman  
United States Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

The Honorable Debra Miller  
United States Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Chairman Elliott and Surface Transportation Board Members:

I am writing to express my concerns regarding indications that Canadian Pacific Railway (CP) is attempting a hostile take-over of Norfolk Southern Corporation (NS). Based on CP's public communications, I have significant concerns that CP's unsolicited proposal to acquire NS, if allowed to proceed, would negatively impact the State of Ohio and our country as a whole. Statements about reductions to NS physical plant and employment levels, made on November 19, 2015 by CP CEO E. Hunter Harrison, indicate that severe cuts in resources would be a primary focus. These statements lead me to believe that there would be negative implications for employment and service levels if a merger were to occur.

NS continues to be an important, substantial corporate citizen in Ohio. Our state is home to more than 3,990 Norfolk Southern employees, who operate 2,200 miles of track, 24 rail yards, plus facilities integral to the state's industry and communities. For example, during 2014, NS helped nine industries locate or expand in Ohio, contributed \$75 million in customer investment and added 283 jobs. NS also invested \$160 million in, and nearly doubled the size of, the

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Bellevue Yard, positioning it as a major focal point on the railroad's busy Northern Region.

I am concerned that combining CP and NS would negatively impact good-paying jobs and commercial facilities as outlined above. I also have real concerns regarding the negative tertiary impacts this merger would have on many businesses in Ohio and across the country who depend on railroads to get their products to market. Finally, I am concerned that cost-cutting transactions, as proposed by CP, would lead to decreased investment in our transportation infrastructure.

I intend to follow developments between CP and NS closely and I urge the Surface Transportation Board to do the same.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this important matter.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Amstutz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ron Amstutz  
State Representative  
Ohio District 1