



Chairman, Wanzek
Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee
Good Morning;

I am Cal Klewin Executive Director of the **Theodore Roosevelt Expressway Association (TREA)**.

The **Theodore Roosevelt Expressway** (Highway 85) is a Federally-Designated High Priority Corridor on the National Highway System. It runs from Rapid City, SD, to Canada through western North Dakota to the Port of Raymond in Montana. On the southern end, it connects to the Heartland Expressway, which connects Rapid City, SD, to Denver, CO. The Heartland Expressway then links to the Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor, which connects Denver, CO, to Laredo, TX. These three corridors are collectively known as the Ports-to-Plains Alliance.

The **Theodore Roosevelt Expressway**--separately and as part of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance--is critical to the economy and quality of life of North Dakota, of the Great Plains region, and the Nation. The TRE serves as a major North South corridor for North Dakota's energy, agriculture, tourism and manufacturing economic sectors.

I know this Committee is fully aware of the immediate transportation infrastructure needs in our state. The Theodore Roosevelt Expressway Association supports long term sustainable state transportation funding for NDDOT. On the Federal level TREA and the Ports to Plains Alliance supports a long term Federal Transportation Bill and working with Corridor Congressional delegations stressing the need for sufficient transportation funding.

Today, you have House Bill 1012 before you. HB 1012 can offer funding to help modernize North Dakota's surface transportation system. HB 1012 can contribute to the current and future prosperity of North Dakota and our Nation with a safe and efficient transportation system for industry, business and the traveling public.

Therefore, the Theodore Roosevelt Expressway Association and the Ports to Plains Alliance supports House Bill 1012.

That concludes my testimony, I will try to answer any questions you may have.

Thank You,

Cal Klewin Executive Director



Theodore Roosevelt Expressway Association